



Agenda Item Number 8. Annual Dinner

Date: September 26, 2024

Presenter: Brenda Moore

Action Recommended: Provide Direction on Annual Dinner

Background:

Each year, LCOG celebrates regional accomplishments for the prior year in the spring of each year. For several years prior to the Pandemic, the Annual Dinner was held at Lane Community College's Center for Meeting and Learning, and dinner was prepared and served by the College's Culinary Arts Program students. During the Pandemic, however, that program and the meeting space closed. Accordingly, for the last two years, the Annual Dinner was held at the Cottage Grove Armory and was a success. A silent auction was also held both years to raise funds for LCOG's Senior Meals Program.

Last year, the event cost \$5,920, including catering my Trio – the company that develops the menus and the food for our Senior Meals program. We had over 100 attendees and sold 77 tickets, collecting \$3,040 in ticket sales. We made over \$6,000 with the silent auction in the two years we have held it.

The Annual Dinner is an awards Dinner. LCOG recognizes those that have performed above and beyond and/or have dedicated their lives to public service. Over the years, LCOG has sought nominations in various ways, most recently by sending out a request to all regional partners, although that has not always provided good results. The current awards are: Elected Official, Public Employee, Citizen, Intergovernmental Team, Economic Enhancement Work, and Public Service Career.

Thoughts on these categories, the nomination process, cost, and venue will be discussed.