



City of Oregon City

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Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Wednesday, August 13, 2014

7:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Call to Order

Chair Boyce called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: 5 - Bryon Boyce, Richard Craven, Douglas DeHart, Jerry Herrmann and Ginger Redlinger

Staffers: 1 - Pete Walter

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Old Business

3a [14-486](#) NRC Activity Planning

Pete Walter, Planner, reviewed and compared Mr. Craven's revisions and Mr. DeHart's revisions to the NRC workplan. There was discussion regarding Activity 1a, the fall NRC tour, which would be conducted in October with the theme of Tom McCall's legacy. For Activity 1b, prepare educational materials for distribution to the public, the NRC agreed the focus of the brochure would be on street trees to be done by the end of November 2014. For Activity 1c, collaborate with Oregon City Water Shed Council and Public Works, the NRC added possibly work with the Soil and Water Conservation District and CCC's Environmental Learning Center to create a brochure on urban stream quality to be done by March/April 2015. For Activity 1d, participate in natural resource focused events like Arbor Day, Mr. Walter explained the duties would include help in publicizing the event and acting as the community liaisons for Oregon City's Arbor Day, creating a one page flyer for distribution, and finding a location. The event would be held in April 2015. The NRC added 1e, create partnerships with schools for natural resource education activities and develop tours for families in the spring/summer 2015.

For Activities 2 and 3, recommend changes to City codes or policies and land use applications, these would be ongoing activities driven by the City and incumbent on staff to advise the NRC. There was discussion regarding coming up with recommendations prior to the City Commission's goal setting in January. The NRC thought a possible recommendation to the Commission would be a dark skies policy. Chair Boyce would talk with former member Ms. Spady about the policy. Land use applications that would not be able to come to the NRC due to timing would be reviewed by Chair Boyce and Mr. Craven for response. They would be the land use notification subcommittee.

Regarding Activity 4a, conduct orderly meetings, any NRC member could suggest agenda items and a draft agenda would be sent out two weeks prior to the meeting.

For Activity 4b, giving an annual report to the City Commission, Chair Boyce would present the report of accomplishments over the last two years and changes to the NRC bylaws in September. For Activity 5, the three actions would be separated. 5a would be to meet with PRAC, 5b would be to meet with the Planning Commission, and 5c would be preparing natural resource priorities to present at the City Commission goal setting in January. Mr. Walter would try to schedule a meeting with PRAC in October. The recommendation for priorities for the Commission goal setting should be done by November.

Ms. Redlinger would make the edits to the document and send the updated document to the NRC.

There was discussion regarding what would be presented to the City Commission in September.

4. New Business/Discussion Items

NRC Fall Foliage Heritage Tour Planning

Mr. Herrmann would be working with staff and would bring something back to the next meeting. The tour would be held in October.

5. Staff Communications

Mr. Walter gave an update on the boat ramp, which would remain closed until further notice while options were explored. He then discussed the sanitary sewer moratorium declaration by the City Commission, Natural Resources Overlay District application from Metro for the Canemah Bluff improvements, and Willamette Falls Legacy Project tours and land use application.

6. NRC Member Reports

Ms. Redlinger announced she accepted a position with the Oregon Trail School District.

Mr. Craven said the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council had been pursuing a scattering canyon project at Mt. View Cemetery. They would be constructing a rain garden there. He thought all these environmental groups needed to work closer together to focus on environmental issues in the City, especially in applying for grants.

There was discussion regarding how they could better bring the groups together.

Mr. Herrmann discussed upcoming natural history tours on the Portland Spirit.

Chair Boyce discussed a hike he was leading in the Oregon Cascades.

The NRC wanted to write a thank you letter to Carol Khemus. Ms. Redlinger would draft the letter.

Mr. DeHart discussed an article on the Lamprey in the Willamette River which was not able to go in the City newsletter, but the Watershed Council was going to publish it in their newsletter.

7. Future Agenda Items

The NRC discussed the agenda items for the next NRC meeting.

8. Adjournment

Chair Boyce adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM.