



City of Oregon City

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Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Wednesday, October 8, 2014

7:00 PM Trail Room, City Hall (Behind Commission Chambers)

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Herrmann 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. Approval of the Minutes

[14-564](#)

Approval of NRC Minutes for July 9, 2014

A motion was made by Mr. Craven, seconded by Mr. DeHart, to approve the minutes for July 9, 2014. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Richard Craven, Douglas DeHart, Jerry Herrmann and Ginger Redlinger

3. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

4. Old Business

Discuss beaver issue with staff

Jonathan Waverly, Parks Maintenance and Cemetery Manager, discussed his background in horticulture. He looked forward to working with the NRC. Regarding the beavers at the Cove, the priority was safety. There did not seem to be a problem unless the water levels were high. Staff had assessed the trees that had been chewed by the beavers to identify whether or not they were hazards and a few required removal. He discussed the limbing up of the trees at Jon Storm Park.

Mr. Herrmann was willing to coordinate volunteers to do something to protect the trees.

Chair Boyce arrived at 7:10 PM.

Mr. Waverly would look into Mr. Herrmann's suggestion. There was discussion regarding the process for these types of issues and who to forward recommendations to.

There was consensus to forward any documents sent from the NRC to Mr. Waverly including the latest memo regarding the beavers.

Mr. Herrmann thought Jon Storm Park had the biggest beaver issues. The limbing up was destroying some of the lower habitat and he suggested planting in the spring some shorter shrubs. It would also help with erosion.

Mr. Boyce wanted more discussion with Mr. Waverly about removal of invasives.

There was discussion regarding the history of the Environmental Learning Center at Clackamas Community College and efforts for its restoration. Mr. Herrmann suggested a representative from the College give a presentation to the NRC about the vision for the Center.

A motion was made by Mr. Craven, seconded by Mr. DeHart, to work cooperatively with Mr. Waverly to research ways to address the beaver issue. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Discuss previous meeting approval of NRC workplan

Mr. Herrmann proposed to do the NRC tour in late winter, early spring of 2015 and focus the tour around Tom McCall. He also suggested doing a river tour. There was consensus to hold the tour in March.

Mr. Walter said a presentation on the NRC's accomplishments, work plan, and bylaw amendments would be given at the October 15 City Commission meeting. As many members of the committee as could would attend.

There was discussion regarding filling the vacancies on the NRC. There was consensus to contact Clackamas Community College or a teacher for a possible volunteer. Ms. Redlinger would make some contacts.

5. New Business/Discussion Items

5a. [14-565](#) NRC City Goals discussion

There was discussion regarding recommendations the NRC would forward to staff to take to the City Commission at their goal setting meeting in January. Mr. Craven had written a list of ideas and the NRC discussed them.

There was discussion regarding setting aside money for invasive removal, organizations that could help with volunteering and grants, need for a Natural Resources position and Volunteer Coordinator position, possible tree regulation code to be worked on for next year, night sky ordinance proposal to be written by Sha Spady, collaborating and coordinating information with PRAC and the Planning Commission and attending their meetings. The priority would be the hiring of the positions.

The NRC would work on the recommendations and bring them back to the next meeting. There was consensus to add an invasive species removal recommendation.

5b. [14-566](#) Discuss improvements to the tree care brochure and NRC informational website.

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

6. Communications

Mr. Walter gave an update on the Blue Heron land use application, River Walk project, and Canemah Bluff land use decision which was pending.

7. Future Agenda Items

Chair Boyce suggested looking at the bylaws to see when an election of the Chair and Vice Chair needed to be done.

8. Adjournment

Chair Boyce adjourned the meeting at 9:10 PM.