



City of Oregon City

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Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Wednesday, May 14, 2014

7:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

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

Present: 7 - Bryon Boyce, Richard Craven, Bob Roth, Douglas DeHart, Sha Spady, Jerry Herrmann and Ginger Redlinger

Staffers: 1 - Pete Walter

2. Presentation: Union Pacific Trolley Bridge Site Restoration

Pete Walter, Planner, said Public Works staff had been monitoring the on site restoration since the Union Pacific Trolley Bridge was removed. Because the restoration was being done in response to an emergency, a contingency fund was set up. Plans were prepared and a pre-application conference was held in March and a Natural Resource Overlay District application had been filed. The work had already been completed, but the land use application was still in process. The majority of the impact of the work was on the City's treatment plant. The restoration plantings were according to the planting densities required in the Natural Resources Overlay District and erosion control fabric was put down with native plant seeding mix under and over the fabric. There would be a two year monitoring and maintenance period by the City and 80% of the plantings needed to be established by the end of the two years.

There was discussion regarding adding a condition to make sure Eastern Dogwood was not planted and if it was, it would be removed, and putting the right protection on the plants to protect them from beavers such as plant skid. Mr. Walter encouraged sending these recommendations to him via email to add them to the public comments for the application. The Committee also wanted to know what the City was doing in respect to monitoring and maintenance and how much staff time was being used. The need for screening the treatment plant was also discussed.

3. Citizen Comments

Christine Kosinski, resident of unincorporated Clackamas County, explained the handouts that she passed out to the Committee. She discussed land slides and new development and the need for better regulations for hazardous areas. Back in 2008 staff was going to write a second stage of geologic hazard regulations, but it did not happen. She then discussed landslides happening on slopes less than 16%. The City was only regulating slopes of 25% or greater. The City of Salem's Code was a good template to follow as it was the most comprehensive in the State. She requested that the promise made in 2008 for the regulations would be kept.

Mr. Walter said there was a recent DOGAMI meeting where the slope susceptibility mapping project was discussed. LCDC was going to issue a directive to Goal 7 in 2015 for cities that did not reference these maps or have adequate protections or if they were in compliance to reference the maps. It was also a condition of the South

End Concept Plan that prior to any annexations the Plan would be reviewed against the maps. He explained the regulations for slopes that were adopted in 2010. An applicant was required to reference any subsequent DOGAMI mapping for the Oregon City area.

Mr. Herrmann thought this should be a future agenda item. Mr. Roth suggested taking a field trip to these landslide areas.

There was discussion regarding the issue of people living in landslide areas and how they could not get insurance.

4. Adoption of Minutes

4a. [14-291](#) NRC Minutes for March 12, 2014

A motion was made by Mr. Herrmann, seconded by Mr. Roth, to approve the minutes for March 12, 2014. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Bryon Boyce, Richard Craven, Bob Roth, Douglas DeHart, Sha Spady, Jerry Herrmann and Ginger Redlinger

5. Old Business

5a. [14-292](#) Discussion regarding URC decision on NRC's Cove Tree Management Recommendation

Chair Boyce said the Urban Renewal Commission discussed the NRC's Cove tree management recommendation.

Mr. DeHart had attended that meeting. He thought he was going to hear a discussion on the Clackamette Cove, but the discussion ended up being about the NRC's recommendation. Staff explained the recommendation well and discussed how park maintenance staff was already overburdened and did not have the time or resources to follow the recommendation. Since the area was about to be a construction site, they could not involve volunteers. The Commission questioned preserving large Cottonwood trees and using metal mesh as a way of protecting the trees from beavers. There was no support on the Urban Renewal Commission to follow through with the recommendation.

Mr. Walter confirmed that the urban Renewal Commission was the decision body for the Cove area.

There was discussion regarding the fact the recommendation did not receive feedback from staff before going to the Commission.

Mr. Herrmann said there was no construction on the site currently and the recommendation had gone four months without response. He did not think the Commission heard the information adequately. He questioned if the NRC was perceived as valuable to the City. The City Manager thought the NRC would be perceived better if they were doing projects, but that was not the only role of the NRC.

Mr. Walter thought one of the most important steps to take was to align the NRC's goals and policies with the City Commission's goals and policies. The process for recommendations needed to be resolved.

Ms. Spady suggested the NRC request a meeting with the City Manager and discontinue doing any further business until that meeting occurred. Mr. DeHart thought the revised NRC bylaws and work plan should be the topic of that meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Spady, seconded by Ms. Redlinger, to request a special meeting with the City Manager. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Bryon Boyce, Richard Craven, Bob Roth, Douglas DeHart, Sha Spady, Jerry Herrmann and Ginger Redlinger

5b. [14-289](#)

NRC Bylaws Subcommittee Report

The NRC reviewed the revised bylaws and work plan. Ms. Redlinger discussed staff's recommendations to the revised bylaws. Regarding Article 4, Responsibilities, there was consensus to leave in the words "initiate updates". They would change "review and recommend" to "receive notice of and comment on" land use applications. For Article 6, Organizational Procedures, the NRC would use the latest revised edition of Robert's Rules of Order. What it meant to present was either in person, telephone, or internet. Regarding Article 8, there would be an added number 6 which would state: "an NRC member in good standing shall attend all meetings either in person or via telephone or internet. If unable to attend, the member shall notify the Chair and City staff liaison. If a member failed to notify the Chair or City staff liaison prior to missing a meeting or if a member misses two consecutive meetings or three meetings in a calendar year, the Chair will contact the committee member. The remainder of the committee will then consider a recommendation concerning continuing membership." There were three subcommittee duties that still needed to be addressed. These would be removed from the bylaws and put in the work plan. There was consensus to add a sentence to Article 6, number 2, "all members shall make every effort to be physically present at the meetings."

Mr. Craven said regarding Article 4, number 2, he didn't like the word "initiaite". He thought "recommend updates" would be better.

Ms. Spady suggested changing it to say, "initiate recommendations and review updates to the Comprehensive Plan."

A motion was made by Ms. Redlinger, seconded by Ms. Spady, to accept the language for Article 4, Number 2 as suggested by Ms. Spady. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Bryon Boyce, Richard Craven, Bob Roth, Douglas DeHart, Sha Spady, Jerry Herrmann and Ginger Redlinger

A motion was made by Ms. Spady, seconded by Mr. Herrmann, to approve the revised bylaws. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Bryon Boyce, Richard Craven, Bob Roth, Douglas DeHart, Sha Spady, Jerry Herrmann and Ginger Redlinger

The next step would be to discuss the revised bylaws and work plan with the City Manager before the bylaws went to the City Commission.

There was discussion regarding the work plan. Mr. Walter would find out timelines for items on the work plan and when they were scheduled for the NRC's input. He could also add the primary staff contact for each item.

Ms. Redlinger wanted to tie the work plan with the City Commission's goals and suggested adding the goal that corresponded to each work plan item. The goals

would be listed in short, key words.

Ms. Redlinger also suggested shortening the mission statement into three words, advise, evaluate, and stewardship. The consensus was to add another column for the three words with a check box for which one fit with each goal. The full mission statement could be put on top of each page.

There was discussion regarding the timeline for getting the work plan completed, especially since it would be part of the discussion with the City Manager. There was further discussion regarding prioritizing the work plan items.

The goal was to meet with the City Manager in one month, and present the bylaws to the City Commission in two months.

6. New Business

6a. [14-290](#) Overview of the Oregon City Geologic Hazard Overlay Zone

Mr. Walter provided a Geologic Hazard Overlay Zone map from 2010 that the City Commission adopted. This item would be discussed further at the next NRC meeting.

7. NRC Member Reports

Chair Boyce announced the Clackamas River Basin Council's annual meeting would be held on May 15.

Mr. DeHart announced a fundraising event for the Oregon City Watershed Council on May 17.

8. Staff Communications

Mr. Walter was still looking into Metro's climate change initiative. The City would be presented with a second Tree City USA award at the first City Commission meeting in June and staff would be putting Tree City USA signs up around the City. There had been push back from the community on zone change requests that had come before the Planning Commission.

9. Adjournment

Chair Boyce adjourned the meeting at 9:42 PM.