



City of Oregon City

625 Center Street
Oregon City, OR 97045
503-657-0891

Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Wednesday, July 8, 2015

7:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Call to Order

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

Present: 5 - Douglas DeHart, Jerry Herrmann, Bryon Boyce, Doug Neeley and Richard Craven

Absent: 2 - Ginger Redlinger and Bill Clark

Staffers: 1 - Pete Walter

2. Approval of the Minutes

2a [15-417](#) NRC Meeting Minutes for April 8, 2015.

A motion was made by Mr. Neeley, seconded by Mr. DeHart, to approve the April 8, 2015 NRC Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Douglas DeHart, Jerry Herrmann, Doug Neeley and Richard Craven

3. Agenda Analysis

Mr. Boyce arrived at 7:05 PM.

Mr. DeHart added a discussion regarding whether the NRC should continue having monthly meetings.

*There would be a presentation from the Environmental Learning Center in August.
There would also be a Cove project review in August.*

4. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

5. Old Business

5a [15-418](#) NRC letter to City Commission

Mr. Neeley discussed the edits he made to the NRC letter to the City Commission.

There was consensus to use the edits made by Mr. Neeley with a few minor changes.

The NRC went through the letter and made changes.

The letter as amended would be presented at the next City Commission meeting by Chair Redlinger.

Mr. DeHart thought the NRC should meet quarterly unless there were tasks or assignments that needed to be addressed.

Mr. Walter clarified it was not in the bylaws that they had to meet monthly.

Mr. Neeley wanted to make sure that when things came up the NRC would address them. He asked Mr. Walter to check on the Cove Master Plan to find out if the temporary trail on the Clackamas River was going to be put in.

6. New Business/Discussion Items

6a [15-416](#) Staff overview of the Natural Resources Overlay District (OCMC 17.49).

Mr. Walter gave a presentation on the Natural Resources Overlay District. He gave a history of the District and discussed what the new District code included. Applications were Type 2 staff level approval, but the NRC was sent notice to make comments.

There was discussion regarding making sure the NRC received application notices.

Mr. Walter then explained how the City was substantially compliant with Metro's Title 13, Nature in Neighborhoods, and then discussed the District map.

Mr. Craven requested Chris Dunlop in the GIS department make a presentation to the NRC.

Mr. Walter gave examples of applications that were submitted for properties in the District.

There was discussion regarding the new bus barn proposed at the high school. Mr. Walter would check with other planning staff to make sure applications like this were forwarded to the NRC.

6b [15-419](#) NRC Workplan Review

This item would be discussed at the next meeting.

7. Communications

Mr. Herrmann discussed a letter he had drafted thanking Scott Archer, Community Services Director, and his staff for their work at the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. Some tree branches were being thinned, but no trees were being removed.

There was consensus to forward the letter to Mr. Archer.

Mr. Boyce reported on the Oregon City Parks Foundation, which was in the process of forming. The purpose of the Foundation was to organize volunteer efforts and financial resources to assist Oregon City parks. The next meeting would be held on July 20.

Mr. Neeley reported on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and how they had been working on the Library playground. He then reported on the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council who were discussing the Scattering Creek project and a diversion on Abernethy Creeek.

Mr. Craven was working on identifying certain areas around Abernethy and Newell Creeks for habitat restoration.

Mr. Herrmann had been working with the Environmental Learning Center to soften the impacts of the improvements they wanted to make.

Mr. Walter gave an update on City parks projects.

Mr. Herrmann said the Portland Spirit notified him there was low water on the river and he contacted the National River Forecast Center. He was told the upper Columbia basin was full of snow pack and they could raise the water level by several feet. The water in the river had risen and it looked much healthier.

8. Future Agenda Items

The NRC discussed what would be on the August meeting agenda.

9. Adjournment

Vice Chair Herrmann adjourned the meeting at 9:00 PM.