



City of Oregon City

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Natural Resources Committee

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

7:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Chair Boyce called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

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

2. Presentation

Canemah Bluffs Restoration Project

Brian Vaughn, Metro Scientist, and Rita Baker, Coordinator for the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council, gave a presentation on the Canemah Invasive Management Proposal. Ms. Baker was going to apply for a \$25,000 Metro Nature in the Neighborhoods Grant for the project of 33 acres. She gave a regional context for the project and discussed the opportunity area for invasive species management, timeline, goals, and implementation of the goals. She asked for the NRC's support of the grant application.

There was discussion regarding the invasive species that would be targeted, grant application area, and need for public education on invansive species.

Mr. Vaughn had been giving technical assistance to the Watershed Council. He did not have a role in awarding the grant. A Metro Grant Committee made those decisions. He explained what habitats would be protected. He thought there would be interest to do other featured phases in other areas of Canemah.

Ms. Baker announced upcoming events. She showed an example of signs that would be put up on Washington and Redland Road regarding a project to identify water shed basins and creeks in that area. A salmon bake to honor people who had been advocates in the watershed area would be held on May 17. A science pub talk on Lamprey combined with a tour of the Blue Heron site would be held in June.

Paul Edgar, resident of Oregon City and Land Use Chair of the Canemah Neighborhood Association, showed a map of City owned unimproved right of ways that were full of invasive species. He thought it should be a higher level of importance as it was in the national register historic district. There were also creeks in this area coming from the bluff. This grant gave an opportunity to take care of these City owned right of ways and the critical key partner was the Neighborhood Association. This was just the beginning of a massive restoration opportunity to restore an area of national significance.

A motion was made by Ms. Spady, seconded by Mr. Roth, to write a letter in support of the grant. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

3. Adoption of Minutes

[14-232](#)

Adoption of Minutes for February 12, 2014

Sponsors: Planner Pete Walter

A motion was made by Ms. Redlinger, seconded by Mr. Herrmann, to approve the minutes for February 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

4. Public Comment

Paul Edgar, resident of Oregon City and Land Use Chair of the Canemah Neighborhood Association, stated Canemah was in a geologic hazard area, yet houses continued to be approved and built in Canemah on steep slopes and landslides. The landslide code needed to be reviewed and updated. Citizens needed to be protected and the City needed to take a more proactive position and incorporate the newest information into the Code. He encouraged the NRC to read the letter submitted to the City Commission by Christine Kosinski regarding this issue.

Ms. Spady requested receiving copies of Ms. Kosinski's letter, the land use applications that had been approved recently or were waiting to be approved, and the current overlay district and geologic hazard standards. This issue would be discussed as a future agenda item.

5. Old Business

a [14-225](#)

Revisions to NRC Bylaws

Sponsors: Planner Pete Walter

Mr. DeHart clarified revising the NRC bylaws and development of the committee action plan were two separate tasks. He thought the NRC should give feedback on the proposed bylaw revisions and the subcommittee on the bylaws could do more work on them. Then there could be discussion regarding how to proceed with assembling the draft action plan.

The action plan was discussed first.

Ms. Spady said the word "goals" needed to be changed to "responsibilities."

Mr. DeHart discussed his proposed word changes to the action plan and would forward his revisions to the subcommittee for further work. There was consensus to move forward with the format Mr. DeHart proposed.

Mr. Walter explained the red lining revisions of the bylaws.

Ms. Spady stated regarding Article IV, Responsibilities, #2, the NRC did not only want to review the Comprehensive Plan, but initiate updates which meant guide the City on

issues and give recommendations. She wanted to take a more proactive role than waiting to receive notice of things and commenting on them if there was still time to comment. There was consensus to change #2 to say "review and recommend updates" and to change #3 to say "receive notice of, review, and make recommendations regarding land use applications." There was discussion regarding what land use applications the NRC wanted to see and how to create a policy to make sure applications were sent to the NRC.

There was an idea for creating a subcommittee to review applications that came in and had to have a decision before the next NRC meeting. Mr. Walter said staff would follow through with sending notices to the NRC.

The NRC continued to review the articles in the bylaws. Mr. Roth requested a one or two page cheat sheet of Robert's Rules of Order.

There was discussion regarding committee members being present at the meetings via the telephone and internet. Mr. Walter would get together with the IT Manager to get the technology working properly and to get the premium upgrade to have video and sound. Members should make an effort to attend the meetings and once in a while they could be accommodated by technology.

Ms. Spady pointed out there needed to be consistency in describing the Robert's Rules of Order in #1 and #3 in Article VI. She also thought there should be a provision for members not to miss meetings.

Chair Boyce said in other committees the cut off was three unexcused absences where notice was not given to the Chair and staff.

Ms. Spady suggested adding a #6 under Article VIII, Code of Conduct, that stated, "An NRC member in good standing shall attend all meetings either in person or via phone or electronic media. If unable to attend, the member shall notify the Chair and staff liaison. If a member is absent for two consecutive meetings the committee can recommend replacement of the member."

There was discussion regarding whether to have it be excused or unexcused absences or change it to three unexcused absences in a calendar year.

Ms. Redlinger suggested the language read, "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 fails to notify the Chair or City staff liaison prior to missing a meeting or this is two consecutive meetings, then the NRC may recommend replacement or removal of the committee member."

There was consensus to include Ms. Redlinger's language in the draft bylaws. Mr. Roth wanted to know how other City committees handled absences.

A motion was made by Ms. Redlinger, seconded by Ms. Spady, to bring forward the bylaws for final approval at the next NRC meeting with the redlines to Article VIII, number 6 to be decided by the subcommittee two weeks prior to that meeting in order to provide adequate notice to the public. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

management at Clackamas Cove.

Sponsors: Planner Pete Walter

Mr. Walter said this item was discussed at the last manager's meeting. Since the recommendation effected lands under the jurisdiction of the Urban Renewal Commission, the recommendation was to forward it to that board before a response was given to the NRC. The URC would discuss it at their May 7 meeting.

Mr. Herrmann encouraged all of the NRC to attend the May 7 meeting.

There was discussion regarding the process and what City staff's response had been. There was consensus that as many NRC members who could attend would come to the URC meeting.

6. New Business

7. NRC Member Reports

There was discussion regarding how to draft the letter of support for the Metro Nature in the Neighborhoods Grant. Chair Boyce said the letter would include how the project matched the NRC's goals. Mr. DeHart and Chair Boyce would work together to draft the letter and email the draft to the NRC.

Mr. Herrmann thought public comments on non-agenda items should take place before the adoption of the minutes. There was consensus to change it on future agendas.

Mr. DeHart discussed a successful way to discouraging beaver damage on trees was by using thick latex paint mixed with coarse grit and painting it on the trunks of the trees.

8. Staff Communications

a [14-226](#) Land Use Updates

Sponsors: Planner Pete Walter

Mr. Walter reviewed recent, current, and pending land use applications within the Natural Resources Overlay District and Geological Hazard Overlay District. The public notice period for land use applications did not normally coincide with the NRC's regular meetings, so separate notices would be provided to the NRC. There were two open applications in the Natural Resources Overlay District, one was a lot of record and a small house was proposed to be built on the corner of Roosevelt and Eluria Streets.

There was discussion regarding how to deal with lots of record in these hazardous areas.

Mr. Walter said the other open application was for Metro's Canemah Bluffs viewing platform project. There was an open Geological Hazards Overlay District application for a lot of record for a new house located on Madison Street. For these types of applications, the NRC could make written comments specifically on the Code criteria and whether or not it had been met and provide a basis for appeal of a decision. The NRC could also weigh in on whether the mitigation was adequate based on the Code.

Ms. Spady said another thing she would like to do was the NRC state this proposal had major issues not addressed by City Code and recommend needed changes to the Code.

Mr. Herrmann wanted to be involved in the Cove site and design plan review.

9. Future Agenda Items - May 14, 2014 Meeting

Mr. Herrmann said the discussion items for the next meeting under Old Business would be bylaws advancement and work plan draft review. For New Business, the items would be NRC process for addressing geologic hazards and development and a public tour of natural resource and heritage areas in July.

Mr. Craven suggested the subcommittee get together to work on the work plan draft prior to the next meeting. Chair Boyce suggested they also prioritize the work plan items.

Mr. Walter said Arbor Day at McLoughlin Elementary would be held on April 26. The City received a Growth Award from the Arbor Day Foundation for the second year as a Tree City USA. He discussed a brochure from Lake Oswego as an example of what they did for urban and community forestry events. It was something Oregon City could work towards.

10. Adjournment

Chair Boyce adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM.