



City of Oregon City

625 Center Street
Oregon City, OR 97045
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Meeting Minutes - Final

Natural Resources Committee

Wednesday, August 9, 2017

7:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Call to Order

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

Present: 6 - Dorothy Dahlsrud, Trent Warness, Bill Clark, Jerry Herrmann, Matt Kuhl and Doug Neeley

Absent: 1 - Nancy Broshot

Staffers: 2 - Pete Walter and John Lewis

2. Agenda Analysis

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Presentations

John Lewis, Public Works Director, and Kevin Muck, PGE Lighting Supervisor, gave a presentation on street lighting. PGE had adopted an LED street light standard about five years ago and the majority of the lights had been converted in Oregon City. PGE had also come up with a decorative light standard and there were some decorative lights in Oregon City that were PGE authorized. Most of the decorative lights had been added through City projects and the City owned them and PGE maintained some while the City maintained some. Oregon City had about 3,000 lights that PGE owned and maintained. It was difficult to get decorative lighting that was dark sky compliant. The standard cobra head lights produced very little upward light bleed, and the City had been working to upgrade the decorative lights to LEDs which had a dark cap on the top and made the lights shine down. Some people did not like how the newer and older lights did not match, but the lights were expensive to replace.

There was discussion regarding the light bleed from the Amtrak station, the color and temperature of LED lights, and replacement of the decorative lights.

There was consensus to have a presentation on dark sky mitigation and examples of what PGE offered including before and after examples. They also wanted to know if Oregon City had a plan for dark sky lighting.

Jerry Herrmann, Rivers of Life Center, said he and Bryon Boyce had been working on a discovery tour of Water Board Park. The tour was scheduled for September 9. They had put together a concepts and assets list and presented it to the Parks Foundation and also met with City staff. The park was a significant natural and geologic area. They had received a grant to expedite ivy removal from the park and that work would begin in the fall. They were seeking support from groups to get more grants. He discussed a map that showed the assets at the park. He thought the City needed to take a different

approach to this park. He did not think it should be maintained or improved, but it should be interpreted as much as possible. He also thought it should be designated as a significant and unique geologic area.

Chair Neeley suggested Mr. Herrmann contact state legislators to work with him as well.

4. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Bobbie Norton, Boy Scout Troop 133, was working on his Communications merit badge.

The NRC encouraged him to attend the next Planning Commission meeting as there would be a controversial issue discussed.

Committee Member Dahlsrud suggested his troop help with an upcoming ivy pull.

5. General Business

Pete Walter, Planner, reviewed the joint PRAC and NRC Work Session that happened in July. Some of the topics discussed were heritage trees, funding for arborist reports, and funding for signage. The top three priorities for both groups were invasive species, providing funding for support of the heritage tree program, and signage, plaques, and interpretive signage for natural resources in parks.

There was discussion regarding the need for funding an arborist for heritage tree designation. Chair Neeley suggested submitting a Metro Enhancement Grant application as a stop gap until the next budget cycle where they could request either an arborist be brought onto staff or a contract with an arborist.

Committee Member Dahlsrud suggested looking into using Clackamas Community College arborist students. Chair Neeley requested staff to contact the head of the program at the college and invite him to come to an NRC meeting to discuss the option further.

Mr. Walter suggested contacting the Pacific Northwest Society of Arboriculture as well.

Chair Neeley thought at the next meeting they could revisit the code to look at the requirement for an arborist report and discuss alternative criteria.

There was discussion regarding the \$300 fine not being enough for removing a heritage tree. This would be reviewed as well.

Mr. Walter said at the next NRC meeting the NRC work plan could be updated to include these items.

6. Adoption of Minutes

Draft Minutes for NRC October 26, 2016

A motion was made by Committee Member Warness, seconded by Committee Member Clark, to approve the October 26, 2016 meeting minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Dorothy Dahlsrud, Trent Warness, Bill Clark, Jerry Herrmann, Matt Kuhl and Doug Neeley

7. Communications

Mr. Walter reported on upcoming Planning Commission hearings and the yearly report for the jughandle mitigation site plantings.

Chair Neeley stated the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council and Oregon City Women's Club would be the recipients of the Oregon City Brewery fundraiser on the 15th.

Committee Member Herrmann discussed the clean up and rehabilitation at Clackamette Cove. Mr. Walter explained what was included in Phase 2 of the Cove development.

8. Future Agenda Items

Mr. Walter reviewed the items on the next meeting's agenda.

Committee Member Herrmann suggested a sea lion presentation as a future agenda item.

9. Adjournment

Chair Neeley adjourned the meeting at 8:55 PM.