# City of Oregon City

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

## Natural Resources Committee

**Wednesday, December 13, 2017** | **7:00 PM** | **Commission Chambers**

## 1. Call to Order

*The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. A quorum of the NRC was not present.*

**Present:** 2 - Dorothy Dahlsrud and Matt Kuhl

**Absent:** 5 - Trent Warness, Bill Clark, Nancy Broshot, Jerry Herrmann and Doug Neeley

**Staffers:** 1 - Pete Walter

## 2. Agenda Analysis

## 3. Presentations

**3a.** Presentation and Discussion with Rodney Walters - Clackamas Community College Arboriculture Program

*Rodney Walters, Clackamas Community College Arboriculture Program instructor, discussed his background and education. He then explained the program at the college and positions in the arborist field.*

*Pete Walter, Planner, reviewed the Heritage Tree Program and possibly partnering with the Arboriculture Program for the arborist report requirement. He discussed the application process and how the arborist report had been cost prohibitive to applicants. The NRC was working on incentives for the Heritage Tree Program, and the City did not have the resources to fund the program.*

*Mr. Walters was not sure if the college students would have the experience to be able to provide the arborist evaluation. He suggested asking arborist companies or tourism companies to sponsor Heritage Trees.*

*There was discussion regarding putting covenants on trees, wildlife trees, managing natural areas, resources for property owners, getting a diversity of trees in neighborhoods, and how to place a value on trees.*

*Mr. Walter listed the resources the City provided and some areas that needed to be worked on.*

*Mr. Walters gave suggestions for resources as well. He recommended the City procure professional services for long range planning and hire an urban forester. He thought it would be good to do a tree inventory and management plan, which could be done by an*

*urban forester.*

*There was further discussion regarding street trees and sidewalk issues.*

**3b.** Presentation and Discussion with Sam Leininger - Clackamas Soil and Water District WeedWise Program

*Sam Leininger, Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District, gave a presentation on the WeedWise Program. He provided a background of the District, invasive weeds and other terms, concerns about invasive weeds, cost of invasive species, and how everyone had invasive weeds. He then discussed what WeedWise was doing about these invaders including the services and assistance to Clackamas County residents. Some of the programs included the Landowners Technical Assistance Initiative, Landowners Assistance Projects, Weed Equipment Library, and outreach and education. They also worked on assessment and prioritization to maximize their impact and he explained why prioritization was important. He discussed the Weed Observation Database, infestations, prioritized populations, and assistance with statewide mapping and prioritization efforts. He then gave an overview of invasives management to address landscape level threats including early detection and rapid response. He described the biocontrol program and priority area protection. He discussed weeds in Oregon City and efforts that were currently underway. He recommended updating the City's nuisance ordinance and gave suggested changes. He also noted that City parks were not in compliance with the current code regarding invasive weeds. To remedy the situation it would take a significant investment by the City and a well thought out process to get them manageable. There were opportunities and collaboration to help in this effort.*

*There was discussion regarding potential collaboration and sharing of information as well as how the City could effect some changes.*

## 4. Public Comments

*There were no public comments.*

## 5. Old Business

## 6. New Business

## 7. Communications

*Mr. Walter gave an update on the Friends of Trees planting, development applications, Clackamas Cove project, and Willamette Falls Legacy Project.*

*Committee Member Dahlsrud announced the Oregon City Pool Open House on January 5 and Oregon City Parks Foundation benefit auction on January 20.*

## 8. Future Agenda Items

*Committee Member Dahlsrud suggested bringing in Rick Winterhalter to discuss recycling.*

## 9. Adjournment

*The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.*