

**City of Oregon City
Meeting Minutes
Natural Resources Committee
December 9, 2015 7:00 PM
City Hall, Commission Chambers**

1. Call to order by chair Ginger Redlinger at 7:00 pm.

Members present: Douglas DeHart, Bill Clark, Bryon Boyce, Ginger Redlinger, Doug Neeley, Richard Craven, Jerry Herrmann
Staff present: Pete Walter (Planner, City of Oregon City)

2. NRC interviews

Mr. Clark excused himself from the panel, as he is one of the interviewees.

Interviewee: Trent Warness (via phone)

Interview questions:

Ms. Redlinger: Why are you applying to the Natural Resources Committee? Tell us about your interests.

Mr. Neeley: Are you aware of any of the programs or projects or developments going on in OC that have natural resource implications?

Mr. Craven: Have you had any experience in outreach programs for environmental issues, or what might you suggest to try to generate more interest?

Mr. Herrmann: When you were involved as a resource information forester, did you coordinate meetings where the public would be involved directly, and/or recruit them?

Mr. Boyce: What type of projects do you think that the NRC ought to be working on?

Mr. Neeley: Do you have some ideas about how you would like to see urban tree management approached?

Interviewee: Dorothy (Didi) Dahlsrud

Interview questions:

Ms. Redlinger: Why are you applying for the position?

Mr. Neeley: How do think we could relate better with our neighborhood entities (county, Metro, and so on) in terms of how we grow, and how we can plan together?

Unknown speaker: Where did you go to college? I can't read it very well.

Same speaker: How would that background come into environmental issues, relative to public outreach, and so on?

Mr. Herrmann: No questions.

Unknown speaker: Do you have any suggestions for where you think the city's natural resources ought to focus on the Blue Heron mill site?

Interviewee: Bill Clark

Interview questions:

Ms. Redlinger: Tell us how this year has gone for you and why you're willing to continue?

Unknown speaker: Technical question: Are you within the city limits? (Answer: No.) We are looking to fill this with someone not residing in the city, is that right? (Directed at Mr. Walter, who said he would find out.) Some discussion about what the qualifications are for where a candidate lives/works, and whether this position is for someone living inside or outside of the city limits.

Unknown speaker: What was your position for the dept of natural resources and wildlife in Colorado?

Mr. Walter: (follow-up to discussion above about residential status) Under the qualifications that states 5 of the 7 members of the committee members shall reside, work in, own property in, or own a business in OC. If all 3 applicants are appointed we will still be within the range of those qualifications.

Mr. Herrmann: How do you feel about being able to make things happen in Oregon City?

Mr. Herrmann: How would you get the public excited about attending a meeting?

Motion by unknown speaker: Advance the 3 candidates' names as interviewed tonight to the next city level.

Seconded: unknown speaker

In favor: Mr. DeHart, Mr. Clark, Mr. Boyce, Ms. Redlinger, Mr. Neeley, Mr. Craven, Mr. Herrmann

3. Approval of the Minutes

3a. 15-677 Minutes of the August 12, 2015 Natural Resources Committee Meeting

Mr. Walter reviewed Minutes from the Natural Resources Committee meeting of August 12, 2015

Mr. Walter stated he was not present at that meeting. Tony Konkol, Martin Montalvo, and Laura Terway were there.

Mr. Walter stated that there had been presentations from the Environmental Learning Center (ELC); Clackamette Cove project; a presentation by John van Staveren and others from Pacific Habitat Services; a presentation about the Meyers Road extension corridor plan; a status update on a work session request of that time; a Heritage Tree nomination for 314 Pleasant Avenue; various staff communications; and, member reports.

Moved (**unknown member**) and seconded by Ms. Redlinger to accept minutes.

In favor: Mr. DeHart, Mr. Clark, Mr. Boyce, Ms. Redlinger, Mr. Neeley, Mr. Craven, Mr. Herrmann

Approved as written.

4. Public comments: None

5. Old Business

Mr. Walter reported on work session results: The City Commission did adopt the NRC's recommended revisions to the bylaws on the consent agenda with no disagreement or discussion. He said the NRC should be ready to move ahead with a work plan and should talk about how to maintain this momentum. Ms. Redlinger stated that this should be put on the agenda for the next meeting. Mr. Herrmann stated that it would be good for the NRC to look at it again, and to have it in front of them in written form. He stated it would also be good for new members to see. Mr. Walter said he would attach those documents to an email. Mr. Herrmann said it also would be nice to have a handbill or flyer to pass out to people, explaining what the NRC does-- outreach would be great.

There was discussion about how to get more people to sign up for heritage trees. A new process was recently adopted for nominating trees. There will be a Planning Commission public hearing on December 14, then it will go to the City Commission.

Mr. Walter discussed more from the work session: What is the communications plan and what is the protocol for getting a recommendation from the NRC to the manager of a City department? Communication could be improved and is improving. There was some discussion about how this could be managed, how formal or informal it might be. The City Commissioners likely don't know enough about what the NRC does, but they all seemed supportive of its role. Discussion about effective communication strategies between all City departments, committees, and official groups. Communication about land use decisions are somewhat different from other kinds of decisions: there are typically many layers to them.

Ms. Redlinger stated that communication could be part of the Natural Resources Committee's annual report of what they did this year, and what they can see in the future.

Mr. Craven had another item to add to Old Business agenda: What happened to the letter that we were talking about sending to Clackamas Community College, the second letter that was sent out about six weeks ago? The first letter was a general letter of support, and the second letter addressed concerns. This project (new building at CCC/Master Plan), if it happened, would start in May. Mr. Craven suggested sending letters/communications to Bob Cochran, Physical Plants Operations Manager.

(Note: This CCC project is not the same project as the Environmental Learning Center project mentioned above.)

Ms. Redlinger asked Mr. Herrmann if, when the letter comes back out to review, he would make recommendations for modifications or include language acknowledging the work that is going on now. Mr. Herrmann agreed to make the recommendations in the letter.

Next, the Cove Project was discussed. Mr. Walter said the Planning Commission would hear the Cove Master Plan/Detail Development Plan/Natural Resource Review on Dec 14. Laura Terway will

provide staff report/ presentation, and will go into great amount of detail on code compliance, how application meets zoning code, what modifications to code that the applicants are requesting through the Master Plan process, Phase I Detail Development Plan, construction of a temporary trail, initial grading above high water mark, future phasing, what's changing from original phasing plan. The project is complex. Mr. Walter said that the hope was that if there were a continuation it would only go into January and the Planning Commission would make a decision on it by late January. Mr. Walter recommended that the NRC attend the hearing if possible. He suggested they could then put it on their next agenda and form a recommendation.

Discussion about dredging for Cove project. Needs to continue to be coordinated with the Corps of Engineers.

Appreciation was expressed for the dedication and leadership of Commissioner Brian Shaw, who had taken great interest in the natural resource issues related to rivers and the Cove project in particular.

The question of whose responsibility it is to dredge the Cove needs to be answered at the Planning Commission meeting. There was agreement that some of the Natural Resources Committee members should be at that December 14 meeting. There was discussion about tree removal relating to the Cove project.

Mr. Walter stated that the previous Cove application is being amended. The staff report states that tree removal plan submitted did not include removal of trees identified for protection in the 2008 Master Plan approval. This should be verified with Laura Terway.

6. Communications:

The Greater Oregon City Watershed Council has been working with the Public Works Department. There is a stormwater outfall at the cemetery referred to as Scatter Creek (because a lot of people take ashes to that area); the stormwater system covers about 60 acres in Oregon City. The Nature Conservancy had a small amount of money to assist on wetland delineation at that site to improve water flow out of the stormwater site into Scatter Creek. That wetland delineation project is to have been done by the end of this year.

Mr. Walter stated that the Tree City USA application deadline would be December 16. The recent Friends of Trees planting was a success.

Friends of Trees has a separate program for restoration and open space. Mr. Walter stated he would like to talk to them more about that. Mr. Herrmann thanked Mr. Walter for his leadership in the Tree City USA project. Mr. Walter stated that Friends of Trees is a great organization that can provide community-building opportunities, as well as provide services that the City cannot.

Mr. Boyce commented about his resignation. He is involved with many organizations and has to cut back. Mr. Boyce was thanked for his service by other members of the committee.

Mr. Hermann passed around a page of information, and stated that we are trying to keep people coming to visit Oregon City. He said he is proud of ten youth tour guides who have researched Oregon City as well as nearby cities, including "Linn City," Lake Oswego, and Milwaukie, for a three-hour bus tour, bringing 50-plus people per weekend to the two museums. Each museum will get \$5 a head. Last summer 500 people came.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.