

City of Oregon City
Natural Resources Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, November 13, 2019 7:00 PM

City Commissioner Chambers - City Hall

NRC Applicant Interview, *Christopher Weaver*

1. Call to Order

Doug Neeley, Nancy Broshot, Matt Kuhl, Trent Warness were present. Pete Walters represented staff.

2. Agenda Analysis

Mr. Walter requested on behalf of a staff member, to move item 4b to before item 4a.

3. Public Comments:

No public comments

4. Old Business:

4b. Willamette River Greenway - Proposed Code Amendments

Sponsors: Planner Kelly Reid

OCMC 17.48 - WRG WILLAMETTE RIVER GREENWAY OVERLAY DISTRICT Section 15
Willamette Greenway Comp Plan

Furnished a slide presentation and discussion about proposed code amendments and provided more context surrounding the history of the Willamette River Greenway.

4a. 19-635 Beavercreek Road Concept Plan: Upland Habitat regulation under OCMC 17.49 Natural Resource Overlay District (NROD).

Sponsors: Sr. Planner Christina Robertson-Gardiner

Gave slide presentation titled: *Upland Habitat Identified During Beavercreek Road Concept Plan Process in 2006-2008*

Planning Commission Memo: September 23, 2019

5. New Business/Discussion Items

5a. Preliminary Discussion of Review Process for Tree Removal on City-Owned Land

Sponsors: Sr. Planner Pete Walter

Mr. Walter referred to the memorandum prepared by City Manager Tony Konkol included in committee member's provided packets, referencing the summary and findings of the tree removal at the swimming pool and how they lead to a discussion of process improvements.

He presented a slide exhibit titled, "Review Process for Tree Removal on City-Owned Land", focused on developing new policies and codes with respect to tree removal on city owned properties.

Parks Maintenance Superintendent John Waverly, was present to talk about department's considerations for what they do when managing trees.

1. Summary and Findings
2. Process Review
3. Sidewalk Pictures - Pool Facility
4. Walnut Tree Arborist Report
5. White Oak Arborist Report
6. Public Works - Safe Sidewalks Information
7. Oregon City Municipal Code - Public and Street Trees
8. Oregon City Municipal Code - Tree Protection, Preservation, Removal and Replanting Standards
9. Oregon City Municipal Code - Site Plan and Design Review
10. Tree Removal Permit - 8/30/19
11. Reissued Tree Removal Permit - 9/10/19

Referring to Mr. Walter's presentation slide titled, "Parks Department Considerations" along with Mr. Walter's introductory comment, "there is consideration on the horizon about replacing trees on a large scale" due to hazardous trees and invasive species, Parks Maintenance Superintendent, John Waverly, responded by stating the importance of avoiding certain tree varieties when new parks are brought online and new trees added so Parks Department "can be in a better place going forward".

Public Comments:

Dorothy Dolsrith –

Expressed concern about sidewalks being made to curve around trees that extend into private property to save the tree.

She asked if there is an existing code protecting city owned trees that property owners do not care for or about referencing the five oaks on Linn Ave. adjacent to a church.

Denise McGriff -

Suggested holding Oregon City, a Tree-City USA designated city, to a higher standard in its city codes and decisions making regarding its trees: how they are preserved and saved.

Recommended city provides incentive for citizens to not remove trees on their private property.

Doug Neely -

Stressed importance of educating citizens about the Heritage Tree Code particularly those who newly purchase property.

Trent Warness -

Expressed agreement with Mr. Neely in regard to educating citizens about the Heritage Tree Code adding his concern about dictating to private property owners what they can and can not do on their own property.

6. Communications - Staff & Committee Reports

Doug Neeley - Stated attendance at an Environmental Learning Presentation

Pete Walter - Announced Friends of Trees Event: November 23, 2019. In need of volunteers.

7. Future Agenda Items:

- Audubon's, Mary Coolidge, to give presentation regarding effects of LED lights on habitat.
- Status of Comprehensive Grant Application.
- Update on Willamette River Greenway and Beavercreek Road

Motion to recommend to Mayor appointment of Chris Weaver to NRC Committee:

Doug Neeley moved to recommend the appointment of Chris Weaver to the NRC Committee to the Mayor. Second by Trent Warness. Motion passed, with vote as follows:

Doug Neeley aye

Nancy Broshot aye

Matt Kuhl aye

Trent Warness aye

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.