



City of Oregon City

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

Natural Resources Committee

Thursday, October 29, 2015

6:00 PM

Oregon Trail Room, City Hall

Work Session

1. Call to Order

Chair Ginger Redlinger called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Oregon Trail Conference Room at City Hall.

Present: 3 - Ginger Redlinger, Doug Neeley and Bryon Boyce

Absent: 3 - Douglas DeHart, Jerry Herrmann and Bill Clark

Staffers: 1 - Pete Walter

2. Discussion

2a NRC Worksession to Prepare for City Commission Worksession on November 10, 2015

Pete Walter, Planner, stated the purpose of the work session was to prepare a presentation to the City Commission work session on November 10, 2015. The NRC would review its accomplishments with the City Commission, discuss topics of concern, and propose recommendations for 2016 City Commission retreat. He proposed the following points for discussion with the City Commission, based on previous discussions with NRC members.

- 1) How should recommendations made by the NRC be processed and acted upon by the city managers other committees?*
- 2) Which departments should NRC work with to ensure effective policy recommendations (Public Works / Parks / Planning)?*
- 3) What role does the City Commission envision for the NRC?*
- 4) What is the best way to ensure open dialogue and improved two-way communication between the NRC and the City Commission and other city departments and groups?*

Doug Neeley felt that #1, #2, and #4 were saying the same thing, and he suggested consolidating for improved communication. He noted that the communication issue addressed in #4 had greatly improved over the past year, and suggested wording such as "enhance communication between NRC, city departments, and other advisory groups." Mr. Walter agreed to amend the points as the NRC advised.

Richard Craven stated that #1 addressed the City Commission's lack of action on the NRC's suggestions, and he noted there were improvements since the concern was initially discussed. He felt that lack of action contributed to #2. He stated there was one main concern, with three categories, but noted the improvements over the past year. He noted the need for a managerial response to the NRC's suggestions and

concerns. He stated the discussion with the City Commission should not be about specific natural resources concerns, but to keep on point regarding the communication issue. Doug Neeley suggested specific concerns, such as invasive species, could be used as an example to make a point and to encourage interaction among departments and other advisory committees.

Mr. Walter suggested the NRC prepare a list of actionable recommendations for review by the City Commission in anticipation of their annual goal setting retreat for 2016.

Doug Neeley suggested the NRC discuss with the City Commission the revised bylaws that have not been acted upon. He also suggested discussing the need for enhanced two-way communication, using the invasive species concern as an example of the reason for better communication.

Bryon Boyce hoped that removal of the invasive species would reduce workload for the Parks Department.

Chair Redlinger summarized the presentation plan:

1. Purpose of meeting with the City Commission would be to enhance communication.
2. NRC accomplishments in the past year.
3. Ask City Commission to consider adoption of revised bylaws.
4. City Commission consider the NRC's questions at the annual retreat. The Committee agreed to combine questions #1, #2, and #4 into one as discussed earlier in the meeting.

The NRC reviewed the accomplishments of the past year to report to the City Commission, as follows:

Revised Bylaws (to be adopted).

Revised the Heritage Tree Code (to be adopted).

Revised the Street Tree list.

Reviewed and recommended five (5) heritage tree nominations.

Reviewed and commented on several NROD land use applications.

3. Adjournment

Chair Redlinger adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.