



CITY OF OREGON CITY

URBAN RENEWAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

Commission Chambers, Libke Public Safety Facility, 1234 Linn Ave, Oregon City
Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 6:00 PM

REGULAR MEETING OF THE URBAN RENEWAL COMMISSION

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Denyse McGriff called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 6 - Commissioner Denyse McGriff, Commissioner Shawn Cross, Commissioner Rachel Lyles Smith, Commissioner Doug Neeley, Commissioner Frank O'Donnell, and Commissioner Rocky Smith, Jr.

ABSENT: 1 - Commissioner Adam Marl

STAFFERS: 4 - City Manager Tony Konkol, City Recorder Kattie Riggs, Assistant City Recorder Jakob Wiley, Public Works Director John Lewis, and Economic Development Manager James Graham.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Personal Services Agreement with Rivers of Life Center to Provide General Cleanup at the North End Wetlands Near The Cove

James Graham, Economic Development Manager, discussed the personal services agreement and the scope of services for the contract to clean up the area near Clackamette Cove. Mr. Graham discussed that the cost for the contract is minimal for the City.

Commissioner Lyles Smith discussed trash debris located in near the Metro Station and her work with coordinating the clean up effort.

Jerry Herman, citizen of Gladstone, Oregon, provided a public comment concerning mowing in the wetland areas and issues with homeless people living in the area. Chair McGriff asked Mr. Herman a few questions regarding fencing and hazardous materials in the area. Commissioner O'Donnell asked about insurance coverage for volunteers.

Motion made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Jr., to approve the personal services agreement with Rivers of Life Center. The motion carried by the following vote:

Voting Yea: Commissioner McGriff, Commissioner Cross, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Neeley, Commissioner O'Donnell, and Commissioner Smith, Jr.

2. Vision Statement and Framework for Decision-Making

Mr. Graham provided the staff report regarding the draft vision statement and associated costs borne by the applicant. Commissioner Lyles Smith asked about application fees and Mr. Graham noted that the City does not require an application fee. Commissioner McGriff asked about the information that would be gathered for applicants.

Chair McGriff asked about how much financial information is requested as part of the application process. Commissioner O'Donnell agreed that additional information should be requested.

Commissioner Lyles Smith expressed concerns that some of the edits were not included that were provided by the Commissioners. Mr. Graham noted that not all of the changes were included in the draft included with the agenda. Tony Konkol, City Manager, discussed that further work on these documents will be completed at the upcoming visioning retreat on August 16, 2021.

3. Vision Statement Development Resources

Mr. Graham noted that the item is a review of the older documents. Commissioner Smith suggested adding reference to the tourism plans in the vision statement.

COMMUNICATIONS

4. Discussions with RestorCap Concerning the Cove Mitigation and Restoration and an Update on the Expired Cove Dredging Permit

Mr. Konkol discussed the item and allowing the dredge permit from 2001 to lapse. Mr. Konkol discussed the rationale in allowing the permit to lapse. Mr. Konkol discussed the contract with Leland Consulting.

Commissioner O'Donnell expressed frustration with allowing the permit to lapse. John Lewis, Public Works Director, discussed that the permit cost was minimal, but had become outdated since its original purpose to allow access for marine patrol.

Mr. Konkol discussed the growth of the gravel bar in the Clackamas River. Mr. Konkol discussed the costs associated with the dredge, the history of the Urban Renewal Commission and financial issues that hindered the project.

Commissioner O'Donnell asked if the permit can be restored, since it could be used to improve water quality using tidal action. The gravel bar prevents water flow into and out of Clackamette Cove.

Commissioner McGriff asked if there was consensus to pursue restoring the dredge permit. The Commissioners expressed their support and provided direction to staff to investigate restoring or renewing the dredging permit.

Mr. Herman provided further public comment and discussed the history of the site and federal jurisdiction issues. Mr. Herman indicated that two feet of channel maintenance might be enough to improve water quality in Clackamette Cove.

Mr. Konkol discussed that RestorCap had suggested that dredging might not be the best approach to restoring the water quality in the Clackamette Cove since it will require repeated maintenance into the future. This continuing obligation to dredge could undermine the mitigation credit project.

Mr. Lewis discussed that the gravel bar would likely return in the future, requiring repeated projects. Mr. Lewis indicated that getting a new dredging permit might cost less than the \$150,000.00 that it originally cost, but the project itself would probably exceed the \$250,000.00 cost originally estimated in 2010. This

work would likely need to be completed regularly to maintain the channel. Mr. Lewis had heard concerns from other consultants that dredging might actually be harmful to the water quality in the area.

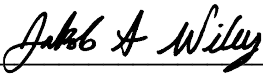
Mr. Konkol discussed that the work with RestorCap will result in an analysis of the best approach to improving the water quality as part of the determination of mitigation credits. Commissioner O'Donnell asked for some options of what can be done rather than focusing on the potential barriers.

Chair McGriff commented on the history of the Clackamette Cove and the naming contest for Clackamette Cove, suggested by the former City Recorder Jean Elliot who won the naming contest.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair McGriff adjourned the meeting at 7:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jakob Wiley, Assistant City Recorder