City of Oregon City

Meeting Minutes

Natural Resources Committee

April 11, 2012 7:00 PM City Hall, Commission Chambers

1 Call to Order and Roll Call --Approximately 7:00 pm

Members Present: Jerry Herrmann, Bob Roth, Bryon Boyce, Marlo Smith

Excused: Erik Carr, Richard Craven, Andrew Senase

Staff Present: Peter Walter, Associate Planner and Staff Liaison, Tony Konkol, Community Development Director, John Lewis, Public Works

2. Public Comment on Item not Listed on Agenda

The following people gave public testimony:

Jerry Herrmann, Gladstone resident and current member of the Natural Resources Committee, expressed concern about the lack of consultation with or official notification to the Natural Resources Committee regarding the removal of 770 trees in the development of a subdivision and how this removal of trees seemed contradictory to the City's application for Tree City USA. Mr. Herrmann brought and shared memos from Bob Nelson, of the Natural Resources Committee at the time, and Walter H. Knapp and Associates, an agriculture and forestry consulting firm, on the matter.

Tony Konkol, Community Development Director, provided some background information regarding the application for development, the process and level of review, along with the zoning regulations, building code, and other Municipal Code that applied to the review of this application.

Discussion occurred about the application for development process, tree mitigation code, and jurisdictional distinctions as it pertained to this development.

Seated at the dais as a member of the Committee, Mr. Herrmann moved that the Natural Resources Committee be notified of like projects in the future. Chair Boyce asked for a second, but there was none. Mr. Herrmann withdrew the motion after finding it similar to extant sections in the Natural Resources Committee bylaws and Municipal Code. It was determined that the Natural Resources Committee was not notified in this case because the Committee was not in effect at the time the project was reviewed and that by the Municipal Code, only Planning Commission level projects would come to Natural Resources Committee and that this project never reached that level.

Dave Prideaux, Oregon City, voiced concerns that the City pursue a Tree City USA status while allowing large tree cuttings without input from the Natural Resources Committee and citizens.

Gordon Wilson, Oregon City, spoke with regards to the Oregon White Oak application. He disagreed with the results of a tree survey and asserted that Category 5 resources were present.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Mr. Herrmann asked that a correction be made to section 5a. He felt an addition be added, so the sentences read as follows:

"Mr. Carr could not commit to the ecosystem services workshop due to his current obligations on the Tree-Subcommittee and Transportation System Plan Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Mr. Herrmann requested that if he could not make it, possibly there is someone that could attend in his place."

Moved by Jerry Herrmann, seconded by Bob Roth, to adopt the minutes for March 14, 2012 with corrections stated. The motion passed by the following vote:

4 – Ayes: Herrmann, Roth, Boyce, and Smith

4. Action Items

Recommendation on Waterboard Park and Oregon City Public Works Facility Heritage Grove Nomination

The contents of the document packet, the sites' known species, geological features, staffing/volunteer prospects, and access points and operations were discussed.

Cathy Rothburg, Oregon City, spoke in favor of applying for Heritage Grove status on behalf of the McLoughlin Neighborhood Association.

Neil Daniels, Oregon City, spoke in favor of awarding Heritage Grove status due to rare specimens on the site.

Cathy Rothburg, Oregon City, spoke against Public Works being in the park setting and said City Commission had agreed that it would not be there.

Following discussion regarding the sites, Marlo Smith moved to table the recommendation until a site visit could be made by the Natural Resource Committee and Staff. The motion was seconded by Jerry Herrmann. There were no objections.

5. Discussion Items

a. Future Agenda Items Discussion

Mr. Herrmann suggested three workshop opportunities: Conservation in America, Duo Ecosystems, and Who Regulates What Agency Roundup.

Mr. Roth suggested review of existing tree mitigation process(es) and the Natural Resources Committee's role in providing leadership and interest in urban forestry.

Mr. Herrmann suggested inviting Kim Worcester, West Linn, and Lorie Griffith, Heritage Waters Task Force, to speak about volunteer coordination and more information about ORS 17.49.

b. Communications

There were no communications.

6. **Adjournment—Approximately 9:00 pm.**