



City of Oregon City

625 Center Street
Oregon City, OR 97045
503-657-0891

Meeting Minutes - Final Natural Resources Committee

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

7:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Call to Order

Chair Boyce called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: 4 - Bryon Boyce, Jerry Herrmann, Bob Roth and Douglas DeHart

Absent: 3 - Erik Carr, Richard Craven and Sha Spady

Staffers: 1 - Pete Walter

2. Citizen Comments on issues and items not on the agenda

There were no citizen comments on issues and items not on the agenda.

3. General business

a [13-250](#) Street Tree List Updates

Pete Walter, Planner, gave an update on the changes to the Street Tree List including noting which trees were native to Oregon, noting which trees were able to be planted under a power line, and discussed the species of trees. If approved, he would forward the list for a final review from City departments, create website links to all of the species, and take it to the City Commission for final adoption.

There was discussion regarding the species of trees, possibly adding to it, making a note of the species that might resprout invasive and needed maintenance, and to avoid messy, sticky, seed, nut, or fruit tree varieties. Mr. Walter explained the distinction between street trees and the native plant list.

Chair Boyce had some additional changes to send to Mr. Walter. Mr. Walter would bring the list back to the next meeting.

4. NRC member reports

Mr. Roth announced Earth Day events at Clackamas Community College beginning on April 17.

Mr. Herrmann said there was a meeting scheduled for the Lower Clackamas River Task Force on April 23 to discuss what could realistically be done on the river. John Lewis, Public Works Director, was going to help identify the issues related to agencies that could help. He suggested putting the meeting off until June. Saving the trolley bridge and adding it as part of the trail system was a current item for the Task Force.

There was discussion regarding the elected officials who were interested in the trolley

bridge and need for Metro and other jurisdiction participation.

Chair Boyce reported on the river gauge being closed in Oregon City and how he did not think it would affect planning for flooding.

There was discussion regarding the importance of the gauge.

Mr. Herrmann clarified the Oregon City Annual Clean Up Day sites were on the website. He thought the NRC needed to go out and look at things in the field such as the City's stormwater detention areas and fall foliage trees.

Chair Boyce said there were substantial federal grants to develop volunteerism in cities. The grant could pay for a full time volunteer coordinator or for a smaller volunteer program.

Mr. Walter said typically staff wrote grants and he thought this grant should be pursued.

Chair Boyce said the grant could be used for emergency preparedness volunteerism. He would email Mr. Walter the links for the grant.

5. Staff reports

Mr. Walter said Mr. Craven agreed to being secretary of the NRC. He asked if the NRC wanted to rely on the video and agenda or have a formal set of minutes. The NRC wanted minutes prepared of the main points and thought it should be discussed with Mr. Craven.

Mr. Walter announced events happening in April including Arbor Day activities on April 17. May was Preservation Month and the Ruth Powers Historic Preservation Award would be presented at a City Commission meeting in May.

Mr. Herrmann explained who Ms. Powers was. Mr. Walter explained how historic preservation tied into natural resources and explained the work of the Historic Review Board. He then announced SOLV clean up events in the City on April 20.

There was discussion regarding a new Bicycle Coalition to create a trail in Newell Canyon. He thought the NRC could help in the effort.

Mr. Walter said there would be a high speed passenger rail open house in May and he asked a member of the NRC to attend and participate in the public involvement portion. Mr. DeHart volunteered to attend.

Mr. Walter said the Street Tree List and Heritage Tree Code amendments would be brought back to the next meeting. Mr. DeHart thought Newell Creek Canyon and the stormwater run off issues should be on a future agenda.

6. Next scheduled meeting date - May 8, 2013

7. Adjournment

Chair Boyce adjourned the meeting at 8:26 PM.