

City of Oregon City

Meeting Minutes

Natural Resources Committee

Wednesday March 11, 2020 7:00 PM

City Hall, Commission Chambers

**1. Call to Order:** 7:00 PM by Dr. Nancy Broshot

Present: Doug Neeley, Dr. Nancy Broshot, Mike Hamilton, Devon Pilney, Chris Weaver

Staff: Pete Walter

**2. Agenda Analysis**

Proposal by Dr. Broshot to move Beaver Creek Road Plan from discussion item to agenda item 6c.

**3. Introductions**

**4. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

William Foster, Oregon City resident, asked what kind of oak and maple trees will be planted on Oregon City Enhancement Day. He expressed concern that non-native trees will be planted and wanted to know if the Committee could ensure native trees would be planted. Additionally, he provided the insight that only 1 of 15 trees on the street tree list are native. Mr. Walter indicated he would bring Mr. Foster's comments forward to the Parks Department

**5. Presentations**

**a. I-205 Corridor/Abernethy Bridge Improvements: Widening and Seismic Update Project by HDR Engineering** (Presented by Kimberly Dinwiddie, Oregon

Department of Transportation, and two representatives from HDR Engineering, Mike Bertram (Project Manager) and Brian Wilkinson (Engineer))

Specific section of roadway is the only remaining segment of I-205 that is two lanes in both directions, has closely spaced on-ramps, and seismically vulnerable areas - especially near Abernethy Bridge. The consultants provided overview for the ways the project will impact the natural environment and ways in which that impact is being minimized.

- b. **Lighting Impacts on Birds** (Presented by Mary Coolidge of Portland Audubon Society)

Provided overview of the way LED lighting and building design impact bird populations, including migratory patterns, nesting, and circadian rhythms.

## **6. General Business (Pete Walter)**

- a. **Heritage Stand Nominations for Park Place Park and Mountain View Cemetery**

Mountain View Cemetery: Stand of 3 Giant Sequoia

Park Place Park: 19 Garry Oak, 2 Douglas Fir, 6 Atlas Cedar.

More details about which trees are in decline will be coming from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC).

**Motion:** Doug Neeley moved to support Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee's recommendations to approve the heritage tree lists.

**Seconded:** Mike Hamilton

**In favor:** Chris Weaver, Devon Pilney, Mike Hamilton, Nancy Broshot, Doug Neeley

**Opposed:** None

**Result:** Motion passes

- b. **Draft Additional Standards and Procedures for Removal of a Publicly Owned Tree**

Mr. Walter provided an overview of proposed guidelines and next steps, with acknowledgement it will be a long process. Received feedback from committee members:

Mr. Neeley proposed looking at other ways to support habitats, such as ponds. Chris Weaver suggested the tree planted to replace the tree should be of equal ecological worth.

Dr. Broshot suggested ensuring that native trees are replaced with native trees. Item will be added to next meeting agenda to see what feedback other agencies provide.

- c. **Beavercreek Road Concept Plan**

The Committee reviewed a memo written by Dr. Broshot with discussion of ways to retain or increase forested area along corridor.

**Motion:** Doug Neeley moved to have Doug Neeley attend City Commission meeting to represent viewpoint of NRC

**Seconded:** Mike Hamilton

**In Favor:** Chris Weaver, Devon Pilney, Mike Hamilton, Nancy Broshot, Doug Neeley

**Opposed:** None

**Motion passed.**

**7. Communication Updates**

From Pete Walter:

**Update on Canemah Wetlands:** Doug Neeley recommended a 10-15 foot corridor between neighboring property and wetlands. Mr. Neeley provided further clarification on the recommendation. The adjacent property owner, Karen (last name unknown), provided comment on the situation and was supportive of the recommendation.

**Oregon City Enhancement Day:** Saturday, April 25th

**Notice of Decision for Forest Edge Apartments Stabilization.** No appeals; decision is final.

**Comprehensive Plan:** Report of decision to accept proposal from 3J for the upcoming Visioning Project.

From Doug Neeley:

Mr. Neeley asserted that the NRC should have the opportunity to give input on items on agendas of Planning and City Commissions where Natural Resource Overlay District (NROD) is involved.

**8. Future Agenda Items**

Revisit tree removal standards on publicly owned land  
Recruitment for Project Advisory Team

**9. Adjournment**

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.**