City of Oregon City

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

Meeting Minutes

Natural Resources Committee

Wednesday, January 8, 2020 | **7:00 PM** | **Commission Chambers**

7:00 PM - Work Session

1. Interview Applicant - Devon Pilney

7:30 PM - Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order

Chair Warness called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Present: 4 - Nancy Broshot, Doug Neeley, Mike Hamilton and Trent Warness

Absent: 1 - Marie Holladay

Staffers: 1 - Pete Walter

2. Agenda Analysis

3. Annual Election of New Officers

3a. Annual Election of Natural Resources Committee officers for 2020

A motion was made by Committee Member Neeley, seconded by Committee Member Hamilton, to elect Nancy Broshot as Chair for 2020. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Nancy Broshot, Doug Neeley, Mike Hamilton and Trent Warness

A motion was made by Committee Member Warness, seconded by Committee Member Neeley, to elect Mike Hamilton as Vice Chair for 2020. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Nancy Broshot, Doug Neeley, Mike Hamilton and Trent Warness

4. Approval of the Minutes

4a. Approval of Minutes for February 13, March 13, and April 10, 2019

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

5. Citizen Comments on Issues and Items not on the Agenda

Denyse McGriff, resident of Oregon City, thanked the Committee in advance for their future work on an ordinance regarding trees on public property.

6. Presentations

The presentation from Audobon was postponed until March.

7. General Business

7a. Heritage Tree Nominations for 910 Linn Ave, 810 Jackson St, and 412 Logus St

Pete Walter, Planner, reviewed the 2019 Heritage Tree nominations on private property. They were for a Sugar Maple at 901 Linn Avenue, American Sycamore at 810 Jackson Street, and Northern Red Oak at 412 Logus Street. He discussed the approval criteria.

Brian Carrier and Gretchen Nation owned the tree on Jackson Street. They had bought their house because of this tree and discussed the importance of maintaining the character of Oregon City and protecting the trees. They thought the fines for cutting down trees should be raised.

Carla Love said her neighbor owned the tree on Logus Street. She explained the history of the nearby houses and tree. The Barclay Hills Neighborhood Association had passed a tree resolution to preserve as many trees in the neighborhood as possible.

Dorothy Dahlsrud discussed the tree on Linn Avenue and why it was special. She suggested these trees be honored on Arbor Day this year.

Roger Fowler-Thias, resident of Oregon City, said the Oregon City Parks Foundation had been working in Water Board Park to save the tree canopy there. He discussed the importance of large trees to the environment.

Denyse McGriff, resident of Oregon City, discussed how these trees were connected to historic sites. She was in favor of these nominations.

A motion was made by Committee Member Broshot, seconded by Committee Member Hamilton, to approve the Heritage Tree nominations for 910 Linn Ave, 810 Jackson St, and 412 Logus St. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Nancy Broshot, Doug Neeley, Mike Hamilton and Trent Warness

7b. Forest Edge Apartments NROD / Geologic Hazard / Site Plan Review (Planning Files GLUA 19-0008: SP-19-00127, NROD-19-00012, GEO 19-00012)

Mr. Walter summarized the Forest Edge Apartments NROD / Geologic Hazard / Site Plan Review application. The primary goal was to remove water from the hillside and provide an emergency access route for the existing development. The City Commission had called this application up for review. He explained the applicable criteria, stormwater outfall, dewatering wells, and service road reconnection.

Brian Lee, Pace Engineering, gave a background on the new owner of the property and the dewatering wells that had stabilized the soils.

There was discussion regarding the dewatering wells, stormwater management, safety of the groundwater going to the creek, geotechnical analysis, future development in steep slopes, and impacts to the surrounding area.

8. Member Reports

Chair Warness said Committee Member Holladay was resigning from the Committee.

A motion was made by Committee Member Neeley, seconded by Committee Member Hamilton, to recommend to the Mayor the appointment of Devon Pilney to the Natural Resources Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Nancy Broshot, Doug Neeley, Mike Hamilton and Trent Warness

9. Staff Reports

Mr. Walter reported on the policy for notification and decision making for tree removal on City owned property, Canemah wetlands application, Tyrone S Woods Memorial Park, Stormwater Master Plan update, Tree City USA application, Heritage Tree applications, Audobon presentation in March, Geologic Hazard Code update, Planning for Pollinators webinar, Comprehensive Plan update funding, and Scattering Canyon watershed improvement project.

10. Future Agenda Items

Patti Webb, resident of Oregon City, asked about the Canemah wetland application. Mr. Walter clarified it was for the wetland on the Canemah Cottage Homes development site. He further explained what was included in the application.

Mr. Walter reviewed upcoming agenda items.

Committee Member Neeley suggested a presentation from Metro on the trail system and property by the cemetery that Metro wanted to purchase.

11. Next Scheduled Meeting - February 12, 2020

12. Adjourn

Chair Warness adjourned the meeting at 8:43 PM.