

# OSWEGO LAKE WATERSHED COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES

Gubanc's Pub and Restaurant

Friday, May 6, 2016

The *vision* of the Oswego Lake Watershed Council is a healthy properly functioning watershed. This vision is of streams, wetlands, riparian forests, upland forests/trees, Oswego Lake, and other natural resources working together as a sustainable ecological system that supports good water quality, productive habitat for native plant and animal communities, and enhanced quality of life.

The *mission* of the Oswego Lake Watershed Council is to foster stewardship, education, participation, and financial support for the purpose of the conservation, restoration, enhancement, and maintenance of watershed functions that achieve and sustain a healthy watershed.

**1. Welcome and Introductions:** Directors present were Chair Stephanie Wagner, Tom Bland, Mary Ratcliff, Sarah Asby and Mike Buck. Guests were Diana Grappasono, from Mountain Park and Community Property Committee, Maddee Rubenson, Wilma McNulty and Adra Lobdell (OLWC and TCWC Project Manager)

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### **2. Operations:**

- **Resolved: Minutes for April 15, 2016 were unanimously approved and accepted.**
- **Financial Report:** Tom reported a bank account balance of \$11, 492.00. One expense noted was for our liability insurance (\$680.00) which covers the year. Adra reported that OLWC received from Clackamas County Soil and Water a \$6500.00 grant. This grant constitutes a notable sign of recognition for our positive, ongoing work in the watershed.

### **3. Staff Reports:**

- **Funding:** Adra talked with Anne MacDonald regarding our HEF budget funds for this new year of approved projects. Stephanie said that Anne will define the policy for future disbursement; and she believes Anne would like to do the lump sum up front than follow a reimbursement methodology. Stephanie recommended to Anne OWEB grant's descriptive wording as an example to follow for accountability. Stephanie raised the issue that OLWC needs to recognize volunteer stewardship contributions and that the *State of the Watershed* event would be an appropriate time and place to do this. Tom will be working with Aleta on budget categories that would include activities like this programmatic expense and in-kind contribution of volunteer hours. Tom will confer with Stephanie to get the parameters set. Stephanie also mentioned the City carrying conservation easements; and Wilma recommended Debbie Craig as a person possibly familiar with this process.
- **City Of Lake Oswego Projects Grant:** Stephanie has taken responsibility for the Boutwell site and has familiarized herself with the ongoing maintenance responsibilities and challenges. She has also met the adjacent neighbors and hopes to have some of their help to offset the overwhelming dimension of this restorative work. Mike mentioned the difficulty of invasive clearance and the threat of newer invasives coming in from the right-of-ways before native plants could establish. He also hoped for more coordination

between Parks and Street Maintenance crews so that right-of-way cutting would preferably precede invasive seed setting time. Adra has work project dates set on a small scale for the expanded projects while the soil is still pliable for removal activity.

- **School and Community Outreach:** Mary and Sarah met regarding school outreach. The Superintendent, Heather Beck, was also contacted regarding watershed education programs. Mary said she would go to the next meeting of the Action Team in order for discerning a tie-in with the Sustainability Network. Meeting with the neighborhood chairs at one of the Mayor's monthly meeting was also mentioned as a good venue. And an Arbor activity sponsored by the OLWC could also prove to be advantageous. Adra said she will work on a flyer for the June 4<sup>th</sup> tour to be handed out at the Farmers' Market. Future dates will be given to Linda for calendaring on the website. Diana said that the Mountain Park Homeowners Association would work with our Watershed Council to obtain the Metro grant for the Tanglewood project. Dwight continues his work to refine the application submission whose touchstone will be "Willamette River headwaters restoration effort." Mary mentioned an upcoming solar conference made even more relevant with schools having a solar educational component. Sarah spoke of the restoration grant utilizing youth offenders and combining different training projects for both young and old and having features like a "first foods garden." This would include native plants like camas. Dwight emphasized prioritizing projects that are relevant and improve the watershed health of the headwater regions. He is working on the grant application to make the tone and approach more attractive and to illustrate the impact from the project goals. The Council took a vote on support of this endeavor.

**Resolution: Council voted unanimously to be the lead partner with Mountain Park HOA for the Nature in Neighborhood grant for Lower Willamette River Headwater application.**

In terms of ongoing community education, Wilma mentioned the need for more clarity on the infrastructures of stormwater facilities and sewer lines. Medallions for storm water infrastructure facilities continue to be needed to let people know the lake becomes the detention pond.

#### **4. New Business:**

- **Record Retention:** Stephanie emphasized the need for a policy directing practice on this need. Tom does retain receipts and revenue statements. Grant requirements often may ask if an organization has a record retention and investment policy. Tom could provide a matrix that we could adapt from.

- **Park Academy Update:** Mark briefed the Council on the location near where the old Armory building was on South Shore Blvd. He had a hand-out of the geography depicting Lost Dog Creek riparian area. Mark has met with the Associate Director of the Academy, Craig Lowery, regarding a possible project to restore this corridor area which is heavily infested with ivy. This drainage is a very visible to parents who drop off and pick up their children. Opportunities exist to integrate an educational component into the curriculum and since the school goes through high school age, many options are available. Craig has to meet with his Board and other preliminary planning steps involve coordinating a place-based program with students responsible for the plan and OLWC for resource guidance and procurement. This Academy, with a low teacher-student ratio, seems opportune for our cooperative involvement. Mark will talk with major principals in July and Anne would give some direction for restorative work in the riparian area. The local neighborhood

association was also mentioned as a good contact.

- **Web telephone contact:** Mike agreed to remain the contact person especially since contact volume remained low. Adra said that the site might occasion more calls since she sent out a flyer to creek side owners.

**5. State of the Watershed Event:** Mary and Stephanie volunteered to help Adra organize this late summer season event. Stephanie would also like to have a summer social in her backyard. She would host and members could bring side dishes. She hopes to put out a Google calendar poll for date selection with a July target time. Mike gave a brief update on the Tree Code Committee which has just one meeting left to integrate public input to the Code Amendment proposals.

**6. Public Comment and Announcements:** Wilma suggested our group retain a pro-bono attorney. Mention was also made of the potential for drone use assessment since real estate groups are using them for residential oversight and evaluation.

**7. Meeting adjourns 9:30 am.**

**Next Meeting: Friday, June 10, 2016 (Same day as Maddee's thesis defense at PSU.)**