

OSWEGO LAKE WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Lake Oswego School District office

Friday, December 13, 2013

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.

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1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Directors present were Michael Esping, Chair Andy Harris, Stephanie Wagner, and Mike Buck. Lecia Schall, our intern, was also present. Chair opened the meeting at 8:12 am.
 2. **Public Comment: None**
 3. **Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes:**
Resolved: Minutes for November 14, 2013 were unanimously approved.
 4. **Operations:**
 - **Financial Report:** No report since our Treasurer, Tom, was not present.
 - **Website Report:** Andy talked with Linda Keast and received an article from Tom. She is asking for items and suggested a newsletter giving tips about what is seasonal or unique about our area would be especially appreciated. Other interesting features could be about anything relating to watershed awareness, birds surviving our arctic temperatures or those seen migrating, etc. Linda can format the article; she needs the content in a Word Document and pictures are also helpfully illustrative.
 5. **Council Business:**
 - **Recruiting new board members:** Stephanie still plans on asking Nancy Gronowski and Lecia may be able to see a person in the area on Sunday. Stephanie mentioned that an application form on the website would be a good idea for those who would like to join our Watershed Council. Other names of people who have been on SAB and NRAB and who have been on other advisory boards or volunteer coordination in the past were also mentioned for contact. For those who would prefer a less demanding and responsible position but still wanted to help, we could have an "advisory board" status where they could be called in; for example, giving help on a specific environmental project.
 - **Conflict of interest item:** Andy brought up the CCSWCD Grant condition which mentions restrictive conditions placed for funds, but also singling out Harris Stream Services almost to preclude any consulting work as part of this funding. Members thought the language

unnecessary and Stephanie said she would speak with the responsible person. Stephanie went on to emphasize that “conflict of interest” does not mean non-involvement but rather transparency of activity. The OLWC also has a conflict of interest section in its by-laws which manifests the thoroughness and forethought of our operating procedures.

- **Review of strategic plan for moving forward:** Mike reiterated the need that our Council needs to undertake a project “with our name on it” and that Mountain Park seemed to fit as a locus for 2014. Preparatory work could still take place regarding the Iron Mountain tributary in the way of leveraging funding and contacting potential partners. Once these are identified with possibilities for grants, we would want to sit down and talk with Ryan Stee at Parks and Recreation. For the Mountain Park project, we would want to have Kevin attend January’s Council meeting and help us look at the particular locale of identified CIP projects but one that lends itself to the funding we could procure and one that is most accessible for improvements. Mike mentioned the new Lake Oswego Sustainability Network as a group asking for community involving projects. And the Mountain Park site seems like it fits our criteria for community buy-in, educational value and recognized need. If Stephanie and Mike and Kevin could meet on site prior to January’s meeting, that would be beneficial for planning; but Stephanie will make sure Kevin is invited to January’s meeting. Stephanie reminded members about the OWEB grant that is designed to help private entities improve their properties toward environmentally positive directions. At the end of this topic, a member thought having the large watershed map available at our meetings would be quite advantageous, so Mike Esping will check to see if we can hang it on one of the walls in our meeting space. Andy will check to see who is in possession of it.

6. Announcements: None

7. Next Meeting: January 10, 2014 (Friday)

8. Meeting Adjourned at 9:20 a.m.