

OSWEGO LAKE WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, Sept 9, 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, Mike Buck, Rob Amsberry, Tom Bland, Dwight Sangrey, and Mary Ratcliff. Staff present was Adra Lobdell, OLWC Project Coordinator.

2. Operations:

- **Resolved: Minutes for August 12, 2016 were unanimously approved and accepted .**

- **Financial Report:** Tom reported the HEF check was received from the City to give us \$38,377.18 as an account balance. A few invoices are owed but we are in good financial shape to continue our watershed projects. Expenses for this quarter, June through September, are due at end of October. Adra's allocation of hours, a monthly accounting by her, is included in this report. The question of whether our accountability reports go to Parks, future entity of disbursement, will be followed up by Stephanie.

3. Reports

- **Staff Report:** Adra reported that she has had conversations with Ash Creek regarding invasive removal on problematic areas both at our Hallinan and Springbrook work sites. She assured us that our budget could handle the quote from Ash Creek and will schedule this herbicide treatment for challenging locations at optimal times for our own goals. Expansion on the Boutwell site will take us into the ivy on the fourth adjacent property. Given the presence of poison oak there, Ash Creek might be an alternate method for our usual hand extraction. Dwight will give an update at the "State of the Watershed" event regarding the Tanglewood Project and the Independence Tributary. Suzie Spencer will be conducting the tour and has good visual graphics of this area. Stephanie has the organization of this event well under way with thirty RSVP's already received. Good weather is forecast. This event was well published in Mountain Park's digital notification releases as well as *HelloLO* and the Sustainability newsletter.

Adra said that Anne Macdonald will have a contracted natural resource professional, Noah Herlocker with AECOM, help with permitting at Brighton. Stephanie is meeting with Noah to ask how our Council can help in headwater projects to see what permitting is actually needed. Since Noah has good expertise in advising and reviewing

projects, he would be a good facilitating person for permitting involving both City and State. The next step would also be to contact Jessica Numanoglu for an assigned staff person. Dwight suggested writing a virtual “white paper” that would have all this information on process collected and summarized for future streamlining use. Dwight also thought it would be helpful to renew contact with Jason at Tigard High School. A member suggested inviting Carlotta Collette to our “State of the Watershed” event. Adra ended her report on our ongoing projects with scheduled work party dates: September 24th at Springbrook Creek with a youth group from Lake Oswego Presbyterian; October 29th at Boutwell Project and “No Ivy Day.”

Adra met with the Principal of the Park Academy, Craig, on site. He is very supportive and interested in our project work and for integrating this localized learning with watershed health curriculum. This site seems a good candidate for HEF funding. Adra visited another site that did not meet our evaluative criteria due to steep slopes and unsuitable terrain for volunteers besides lack of potential neighbor involvement. Adra left him with information on resources and referred him to Backyard Habitat. Adra and Mike visited a woman’s residential riparian site on Blue Heron Court. The owner, Nancy Dahl, has already done a superb job of invasive removal on the steep slopes and in the riparian zone. Her requests for help involve expertise on a native planting palette for under her shady fir canopy and for the aquatic area of the creek which has had a history of human intervention and negative control measures prior to her occupation. She has a fairly large site with mostly cooperative neighbors. Stephanie talked about how great it would be to have an incentivizing program for neighbors willing to help each other in restorative projects. Tools, discount on plants, mentoring, support resources could all be part of this program. Adra has another house on Wembley Park Road that she will return to since the owner was not present on site for the first scheduled visitation. But this lot backs up to Springbrook Park and another tributary to Springbrook Creek. Tom said that he will try and get the FSP to do a spring work project on the public open space of the Park near this site.

- **School and Community Outreach:** Stephanie is working with Sarah and her husband Dennis to work on a virtual tour. They are getting pictures and putting together “What a Watershed Looks Like.” Our former intern, Lecia Schall, who helped develop the curriculum project, has been hired to teach 6th grade at Lakeridge Jr. High and will actually be teaching this part of the curriculum!

4. Old Business

- **Record Retention policy:** Dwight motioned and Tom seconded to have OLWC accept the policy presented by Tom. **Resolution: The presented policy draft for record retention was unanimously accepted by all members.**

- **Tualatin River Watershed Council update:** Stephanie and Adra are trying to meet and collaborate with April Oblich, Coordinator for TCWC, so they can facilitate working together.

5. New Business

- **Develop process to identify new projects:** Stephanie reiterated that our Council already has an outreach and developed criteria for deciding on projects. We now need to connect projects to funding--like OWEB small grants. Stephanie stated that we

should have a couple of projects on our docket every biennium to place in contention for small funding opportunities. With selection of projects in Mountain Park that are already indentified on the City's Clean Stream plan and placed in the CIP; and cooperating with Mountain Park's potential for matching grant monies, we would be in a favorable position to advocate before the City Budget Council and City Council. We are fortunate to have Suzie Spencer as a partner in moving watershed health forward. Larger projects such as these necessitate team efforts and Rob recommends an organized methodology for the planning that needs to educate owners on the benefits of upgrades, that needs to refine the permit processing, and that integrates any one project into the larger scheme of our watershed system. Adra will start a GoogleDoc file regarding her project site visitations that will contain collected data and information. This will hopefully be a good reference site for future project developments.

- **Develop process for strategic plan review:** Stephanie will bring our strategic plan to the next meeting for updating and assessment by members. In the interests of productive planning, Dwight suggested scheduling a workshop format to do this. Stephanie said that for October, we will concentrate on project organization and then in November we will do a strategic plan overview.

- **New member recruitment:** Due to time constraints, these two agenda items will be forwarded to our next meeting.

- **Formal process to identify community partners:** (October agenda)

6. Public Comments and Announcements: None

7. Meeting Adjourns 9:30am.

Next Meeting Friday, October 14, 2016 at 8:00am.