

OSWEGO LAKE WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, February 10, 2017

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, Mark Rosenkranz, Rob Ambberry, Dwight Sangrey, Mary Ratcliff, Tom Bland, Suzie Spencer, Sarah Asby, and Mike Buck. Staff present was Adra Lobdell, OLWC Project Coordinator. Guests were Ryan Lentz, Erosion Control Program Control Manager, Jim and Barbara Fisher with Friends of Hallinan Heights Woods.

(Ryan will be the City liaison when Rob is not able to be present.)

2. Operations

• **Resolution: Minutes for January 13, 2016 were unanimously approved with corrections noted.**

• **Financial Report:** Tom had both the annual and quarterly financial reports and distributed printed copies. Stephanie uses the quarterly for grant applications. Tom explained into what specific accounting categories he places received monies so it becomes clear track where allocations go. For example, grants will be applied to programs where the monies are spent. Donations are under “development” and can be allocated as needed unless the donor attaches a stated intent. Stephanie and Adra are collaborating on a report to show administrative expenses that are directly tied to City grants and resulting project management. Stephanie clarified for the Council the funding of our liability insurance, some of which is tied to the HEF program. Stephanie said that we are ready to submit for reimbursement on our OWEB grants. Adra has tabulated her hours for work on behalf of Brighton Park and Mountain Park, and Tom will have this tracking for proper reimbursement.

• **Resolution: Jim Fisher and Barbara Fisher were unanimously approved for Council membership .** Board members had read their applications and expressed admiration for their community involvement and professional expertise.

3. Reports

• **Staff Report:** Adra said the HEF grant was on the horizon. She is waiting to hear from the City when the deadline is for application this year. Quite a few potential projects are on the docket to apply for. Adra then gave an update on our current project sites beginning with work party summaries on Springbrook and Boutwell. Adverse weather conditions presumably accounted for lower volunteer attendance . A February 11th work party is planned for Hallinan; and a February 18th date is set for a combined work party at

Springbrook Park with the *Friends of Springbrook Park* joining us. March 4th is on the calendar for Boutwell with the planting of native species a major focus. In a new connection, Stephanie talked with Cindy Ellison from Backyard Habitat regarding collaboration on four demonstration sites a year. Possibly an HOA could be a demonstration site. Having Backyard Habitat a criterion for OLWC selection of HEF application on private property resources was mentioned as a possible inclusion. Mary suggested her own willingness to write an article for publication in *The Lake Oswego Review* on these collaborative endeavors. Stephanie said projects were far enough along to begin submitting reimbursements for OWEB grants. Brighton Park received administrative approval to proceed; they did not need permits. Henderson, their contractor, awaits improved weather conditions for enhancing the bioswale. Once that is finished, grass seeds will be distributed with an October deadline for project completion. Suzie and Dwight gave an update on Mountain Park and stated they had completed the permitting process and had met with Henderson. Involving more neighbors to participate in the planting project is their current concentration. A diverse palette of native plants, grasses, and forbs is in the mix for a March planting. Though no irrigation exists on site, Suzie hoped that adjacent property owners would help with maintenance and timely summer watering. Suzie will be asking the HOA for an additional \$15,000 for this project's budget.

- **School and Community partnerships:** Stephanie met with Craig Lowery of the Park Academy and will meet further in Spring regarding integration of watershed education into the school's curriculum. The school has a greenhouse and raised native seedlings could be used in an on site restoration project. The students could be involved in all aspects of the planning and implementation stages. Stephanie said she felt both definite support and interest from the administration and the teachers. Adra cautioned that a substantial amount of the riparian area was on a private site. Initially, removal of the invasive blackberries would be a major focus, followed by a multi-phased project. Stephanie introduced a new outreach possibility for education of landscape laborers and professionals on invasive species. Though she and the OLWC could not give certification for workshop training, we could affirm an individual's attendance at completion. The OLWC could list on its website those companies and/or persons who have attended this educational training. Mark recommended that our strategy should be to focus on companies as opposed to trying to market for individual contacts. Someone said that the Pacific Northwest Coalition of Land Care Professionals was looking for partnerships. Rob informed us that the Oregon House and Senate had bills before them to remove some contractor education requirements. An oppositional letter is being drafted by a LEED executive, Mike Buettner and Kevin Caleb, from Bend.

Stephanie would like to join Barbara in a meeting with Rick Griest, a 5th grade teacher at Hallinan that has a "green team" working in the school. Barbara said that Rick has helped remove ivy from the school's trees. Stephanie also has an appointment with Larry Zucher, a high school teacher, with a special assignment to implement new standards into the Lake Oswego school curricula.

4. Old Business

- **Strategic Plan:** Stephanie would like our Plan to have new rolling format where we add a year and have a three year plan moving forward on our chosen three goals of Operation, Stewardship, and Education. With Goal 1 on Operations, Stephanie would like to focus on fundraising, Mark and Rob volunteered to meet together also for strategic goal review. Adra, Jim, Dwight and Mike will work on Goal 2, Stewardship. Barbara, Sarah, Mary and Stephanie will come up with a draft on Goal 3, Education and decide on whether to include in the draft Backyard Habitat and landscape education. The objective of March's Board meeting will be to go down the line items for each goal with suggested changes and arrive at consensus in moving forward.

5. New Business

- Anne Macdonald will be retiring from the City and temporarily her responsibilities will be covered by Ryan and Rob. They are now dealing with the MS4 permit renewal. A job description will be posted.
- March's meeting date will be changed to March 17th at 8:00am.

6. Public Comments and Announcements: March Pre-app of Mercantile Property by Center Cal Properties.

7. Meeting Adjourns at 9:30am.

Next Meeting: Friday, March 17, 2017 at 8:00am.

