

OSWEGO LAKE WATERSHED COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, June 8, 2018

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: Stephanie Wagner, Dwight Sangrey, Mike Buck, Sarah Asby, Larry Zucker, Mary Ratcliff, and Tom Bland. Our Watershed Coordinator, Patrick Blanchard, was in attendance as was Sarah Ellison from Hallinan Heights Woods and Jeff Lesh from Clackamas Soil and Water.

2. Operations

• Minutes

Resolved: Minutes for May 11, 2018 were unanimously accepted as presented.

• Finance Report: Tom gave our bank balance of \$11,295.97. He also noted reception of two PayPal donations totaling \$200 which seems earmarked for Hallinan Woods funds. Tom is keeping up with our tax requirements and has completed the short form of 990EZ which he gave to Patrick for Brighton Park usage for grant application. Our new grant from the City of Lake Oswego should be coming soon. And Tom lost his new part-time bookkeeper, but Stephanie volunteered to help with that role. Tom said he will share Quickbooks with her.

3. Reports

• Jim Lesh: After introductions of attendees, Jim talked about the WeedWise Program and mentioned briefly his own service years ago on the North Clackamas Watershed Board. Though starting his career as a software engineer, since 2007 he has been engrossed on the land with plants, native and invasive, and specifically now with WeedWise EDRR team. Jim passed out brochures and gave the overall mission and goals in service to both public and private land owners in Clackamas County. His coverage included what constitutes the various threat levels of classifications for invasive species as well as best management techniques and outreach communications. Priority weeds are listed as A, B, or C and Jeff said that invasive weeds can behave differently depending on their environment and location. Clackamas Soil and Water is especially concerned with noxious weeds. With WeedWise Program, mapping and surveying are important tools. Quickly indentifying and acting upon new invasives helps prevent broad dispersion. The main intent of his work is to improve diversity and enhance habitat values. He works with landowners to help them manage their weeds which means choosing a feasible removal approach. Such site specific approaches takes more CSWD time as

does monitoring and return visits to make assessments. Jeff hopes that these consultations will help yield results both for the goals of the landowners as well as for his program. Jeff went into how to utilize the database for invasives and other contemporary tools like *iMapInvasives* on *INaturalist*. Jeff ended his presentation and discussion by noting the rare native plants located right here in the Oswego watershed.

- **Staff Report:** Patrick started his briefing with the **Park Academy** project where tree and ground ivy were removed. He said consolation came when he noticed the natives popping up. Pollinator poles for mason bees were installed; and Patrick will follow up with an herbicide spraying on the site in later summer. He will also try and treat the occurrence of Japanese knotweed. Neighbors have sold the adjacent property and are pursuing options on further residential development on their parcel. Patrick considers it best to work with the developer once the site is delineated for riparian preservation. Patrick said that the **Westlake HOA** application was submitted for HEP funds. The whole natural open space constitutes 17 acres but the focus will be on a smaller percent: Oak Woodland Project. Native Oregon white oaks are threatened by holly and hawthorne. Some native ash trees grow near the two streams. Patrick hopes that in two years all 17 acres will be dealt with. Funding from the City, CSWD and the HOA will contribute to this endeavor. Dwight recommended that thought be given regarding continuity and leadership in an extended project like this that involves community involvement. He directly thought a liaison would be a definite help. The Board agreed with his rationale and accepted Dwight's offer to serve in this capacity. The Board still seeks a way to procure funding so Patrick can be full time given these expansions on our mission. On July 12th, Patrick will lead a **Restoration Project** starting on Kruse Way and then go on to the Yakima property for a day of service. Jeff Lesh will be giving a special identification of invasive weeds class on July 12 from 6:30-8:00pm at the Mountain Park Clubhouse and twenty-two people have already signed up. Cottonwood School intern seminar has just concluded and Patrick is discussing next academic year with them in the hopes of getting contributing financial help for his organizational involvement with them. Lastly, the **Mountain Park Culvert Removal Project** has had the grant approved and Patrick is working with Zsolt on the pre-app conference with City Planning Department. Patrick is also exploring the Immigrant Refugee Students office in Multnomah County for potential summer interns. He also asked for watershed volunteers to help with *The Big Float* event happening July 14th on the Willamette. Volunteers would be expected to work two hours helping facilitate this event and would be rewarded with a t-shirt and food.

4. New Business

- **Climate Action Plan—Year One Strategy (not dealt with due to time constraints)**
- **BBQ Social in lieu of July meeting: Potluck, July 11th at Stephanie's at 5:30pm**
- **PRAB representation (not dealt with due to time constraints)**
- **Safety Procedures (not dealt with due to time constraints)**

5. Old Business

- **Hallinan Woods Fundraising:** Sarah Ellison reported that the Parks Board placed the Yates property in the top five projects going forward. She was realistic that even with this supportive step, other hurdles lie ahead. An agreed upon sales price still needs to be worked out with the owner. Recently, the *Lake Oswego Review* featured a good article on the endeavor to procure this unique parcel as additional public park lands. Sarah is grateful for the good community support and for Stephanie's focused remarks at the last Parks Board meeting. July 11th is the deadline for development purposes on this property. Lastly, though the Parks Board seems to be supportive, not as clear is the Park and Recreation Director's own feelings and thoughts regarding acquisition.

6. Public Comments and Announcements

7. Meeting Adjourns 9:47am.

No meeting in July but we gather for the potluck on July 11th!

