

OSWEGO LAKE WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, October 12, 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: Chair Stephanie Wagner, Dwight Sangrey, Mike Buck, Jim Fisher, Barbara Fisher, Ryan Lentz, Mary Ratcliff, and Mark Rosenkranz. Guests attending were Project Manager, Patrick Blanchard; and Tom Berridge and Fritz Geowe from Westlake Homeowners Association. Sarah Ellison, from Hallinan Woods, arrived during the meeting.

2. Operations

• Minutes

Resolved: Minutes for September 14, 2018 were accepted with one revision that specifies Dwight taking the Board lead for the Westlake Project.

• Finances: Our treasurer Tom was absent but had communicated to Stephanie that our account has \$7,000 after a salary payment to our Project Manager. Stephanie distributed a sheet on *Active Grant* projects which depicted who the actual grantors are and what has been financially approved for our respective projects. She highlighted the two Habitat Enhancement Program funds that we will utilize for Park Academy, Hallinan (Gans) and Springbrook (Wembley Park) projects; and the other for Westlake oak woodland restoration. Many of our projects extend over years and Stephanie explained how the funding would be distributed accordingly. Dwight thought that sponsors would appreciate clarity on this cash constraint scenario. Patrick said that Westlake will definitely be helped by an expected OWEB grant that will be used for extracting ash trees that are competing and shading the preferable oaks. Tom Berridge thought this project site was about five acres in size and commented on the support from both City and County auspices. He also stated that property and common area lines were not clearly demarcated. Patrick thought that GIS should help determine a good approximation for work site purposes. The Fishers mentioned the possibility of a future "Friends" group being established by the HOA and would be pleased to attend a Westlake Homeowners Association Board meeting to orient them on the set-up process. Everyone associated with Westlake Project desires ongoing integrity and health maintenance of this ecological area. Something like a "Friends" group will help the Board ensure this kind of ongoing maintenance. Tom shared what residents desire and he has worked to receive their input on goals, planting palette

development and denser vegetative buffer in a natural appearance. Patrick said that he will establish photo monitoring to help with future grant applications.

- **Board Ratification: OLWC members voted unanimously upon Dwight's motion and Mary's second to accept Ryan Lentz (replacing Rob Amsberry) and Tom Berridge as Directors.**

3. Reports

- **Watershed Coordinator:** Patrick said he has received a HEP check for \$9900. This will be used to help contract a firm, Green Banks, LLC, for two treatments for invasive tree removal at **Westlake**. He thought that the firm's bid of \$11,000 was reasonable for the seventeen acres. Of course, funding from CCSW and from the HOA will also help defray the expenses. Patrick is in charge of the survey work, grant proposals, consultant contracting and volunteer coordinating. So an invoice will be sent to the HOA, and Fritz related his appreciation of clear understanding so he can help disseminate transparency of the project work for residents' own assessment. Patrick was apologetic regarding some late notification due to constraints. He said that an MOU had been drafted and sent and that he was removing some ivy and holly this very day. Also, October 27th, *No Ivy Day*, would also be a volunteer work party event from 9:00am – 12:00pm. Regarding our **Mountain Park** site, Patrick said he was working on the culvert removal, drainage analysis, and getting the City's permission once they had viewed the calculations. He will hopefully have a starting date by next month's board meeting. We do have another year for OWEB grant help in time for service on this project. Patrick is also communicating with **Park Academy** personnel and students regarding our work project there. He is meeting with staff at PACE engineering regarding the Palisades Terrance residential site which is being evaluated for a new housing structure yet needs special access planning including a bridge. How to construct this dwelling and yet take care that the natural resources are protected as well as the riparian drainage from erosion damage requires thoughtful consideration.

- **Hallinan Woods:** Sarah updated members regarding the recent DRC hearing. Hallinan NA opposed redrawing the RP area which would have reduced the protected space. She was resigned that there was no feasible way to oppose the development and that it will most likely move forward. Two members of the NA will be independently appealing with concerned perspectives on flag lot interpretation and stormwater planning. Sarah admitted the apparent differential between the amount of work expended and the small concessions granted. Stephanie shared her own impressive regard for how well versed and prepared neighbors were who testified at the hearing. Sarah said some finances were used to hire a soil and water engineer to review critically the development plan. Jim focused on getting some improvement on the culvert areas of Hallinan Creek on this site, and he gave a historical review leading up to current drainage structures. Bruce Goldson, an engineer who is working with the property owner, is seeking a solution that the City will support. Sarah said that acquisition hopes for City retention of the whole property were "squishy." Apparently the owners are willing to sell it for a price of \$1.8 million. She will work to get a Parks Board agenda time and a vote by the

Board seeking Council approval for purchasing. With City Council changing with newly elected Councilors at the new year, Sarah emphasized the timely need to get this before the current Council who were versed on the issues. The Board dealt with some other issues regarding this valued natural resource site—like the large Oregon white oak that is threatened with removal due to proximity to access—but turned its attention to the Parks Board meeting on October 17th. We all lamented the fact that no City funds were currently available for quality habitat acreage.

4. New Business

- **No Employee Review Procedure**

- **Thank you Get Together for Rob:** Dwight volunteered the Recreation Center at Mountain Park for a place. Maybe other past members and associates could attend if we had the gathering at lunch time. More details can be addressed at the November meeting.

- **No Fall Work Party Schedule released except the “No Ivy Day” already mentioned.**

5. Old Business

- **Safety Procedures: Meeting time elapsed this agenda item.**

6. Public Comments and Announcements: CAP meeting on Oct. 26th.

7. Meeting adjourned at 9:33am.

Next Meeting: Friday, November 9, 2018