

# OSWEGO LAKE WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Lake Oswego School District office

Thursday, November 14, 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 Mark Rosenkranz, Michael Esping, Chair Andy Harris, Stephanie Wagner, Greg McMurray, Tom Bland and Mike Buck. Chair opened the meeting at 8:10 am. Our guest is Lecia Schall, intern.

**2. Public Comments: None**

**3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

**Resolved: October 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved.**

**4. Operations:**

- **Financial Report:** Tom reported that our bank balance remained the same as last month. He is in receipt of an unopened anonymous donation that covers the internship project costs.
- **Website Report** Andy talked with Linda who is looking for member-initiated events/projects. A further query on her part concerned another newsletter edition. Members thought a draft featuring information Tom could provide on Springbrook Park work, Mike on "1000 Tree Project," and on invasive species-watershed education would work well. Pictures would help illustrate the newsletter. Target dates were December 1<sup>st</sup> for deadline draft with a January 15, 2014 for publication/electronic sending. In response to further clarity about what events should be listed on our website calendar, members thought that listings should have some direct correlation with what affects our watershed. So Tryon Creek native plant sale or information on Backyard Habitat could be featured and a connected link to partners would provide information for those seeking it. But to list all events would just overshadow and minimize our own.

**5. Council Business:**

- **Election Discussion and Greg's resignation request:** Greg confided to members his reluctant decision to leave our Council while deciding to retain his board status on NRAB. This liaison connection and his future coordination with Andy will help keep him informed and still a key asset. Greg gave a summary of NRAB's discussion on the Parks 2025 Plan implementation and the process given internal personnel changes within the Parks and Recreation Department. Further comment on the "Healthy Ecosystems" section of the Comprehensive Plan rewrite process concerned our own need to stay abreast of this for inclusion. Further advocacy is in abeyance contingent upon how City Council resolves the Sensitive Lands issues. Greg said that Ryan Stee is trying to finalize the Iron Mountain Resource Management Plan but has been slowed due to difficulty deciphering property lines that go back to the 1920's.

- **Election of Directors:** Andy gave a brief explanation of the process according to our by-laws and Greg moved to nominate the existing Council members minus himself as a slate. It was noted that stakeholder members are appointed, not elected so Council voted to reinstate Andy, Stephanie, Tom and Mike for two year terms.
  - **Election of Officers (One Year Term):** Andy nominated Mike as Secretary with Tom seconding. Council approved by vote. Tom was nominated by Mike as Treasurer with Greg seconding. Council approved by vote. Andy invited and nominated Stephanie to be Chair which she accepted embracing the Council's patience. This was seconded and Council approved by vote. Andy was nominated by Tom to be vice chair and after a second by Greg, he was confirmed by Council vote. Andy and Stephanie will work together on the agenda. Mike requested that agendas be sent out a week before meeting times and that received Council members' consensus. In terms of meeting times, members at the behest of Tom agreed to change the meeting day from Thursday to Friday. Mike Esping checked on room availability and with that alright, it was decided to meet on Friday's: December 13<sup>th</sup>, January 10<sup>th</sup> and February 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - **CCSWCD grant award (\$1500):** Andy passed out a letter from CCSWCD that awarded \$1500 to OLWC in December. The letter specifies that monies cannot be used to pay Councilors or the Chair for stream service consulting. But this grant will help us fund Linda's work and also our grant writing projects.
  - **WC Council of Councils:** Council is still waiting upon a date to be set. Stephanie updated us on the Soil and Water Conservation Districts' gathering in Newport where around 150 representatives attended. With all the significant and pertinent work going on regarding watershed education, our own insertion of this dimension into 6<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum is unique in the State and could definitely be modeled to others. Stephanie mentioned an important topic regarding liability insurance as we anticipate implementing projects on our strategic plan. Tom and Stephanie will share names of brokers and get a bid for us to entertain so we are not subject to personal liability.
  - **OWEG Small Grant report:** Stephanie reported that \$17,000 is available for next September. She suggested that Corinna can write the grant request and we should meet with Kevin and find out what the homeowners association would like to do. Other discussion briefly focused on Backyard Habitat and demonstration of natural gardens in the schools. A helpful contact and liaison could be Heidi Schrimser who is a parent sitting on NRAB.
  - **Intern Position Presentation:** Lecia Schall began her comments by stating her mission: that she is here to support the teachers. She gave her educational background and experience in school environment and how all this will help to ensure a meaningful and communicative earth science instruction in Lake Oswego schools. She is passionate about helping teachers and students to be successful especially through adapting the difficult teaching units to be more user friendly. Greg talked about the Oregon Master Naturalist program which is an on-line course with some intensified training. Community service hours are part of the program and possibly could tie in with our Watershed Council.
- 6. Announcements:** Andy expressed gratitude to Greg for his service to the OLWC and that we will miss his presence but knows he will be in contact with us. Such an absence recalls our the Council's need for recruitment. Stephanie mentioned a friend who might respond to this kind of invitation. Those involved with sustainability might also see the connection and we should be partnering with them. Mike will attend a December meeting in the area with a
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local sustainability network. Tom and Mike gave volunteer turnout information for invasive removal projects in Springbrook (24 volunteers) and Iron Mountain (32 volunteers) Parks.
- 7. Next Meetings: Second Friday of December (13<sup>th</sup>); 8:00 am.**
- 8. Adjourned: Meeting ended at 9:32 am.**