

# OSWEGO LAKE WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, January 11, 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.

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**1. Welcome and Introductions:** Chair Stephanie Wagner, Tom Bland, Mike Buck, Jim Fisher, Barbara Fisher, Mary Ratcliff, Rob Amsberry, Mark Rosenkranz, and Tom Berridge. Guests attending were Project Manager, Patrick Blanchard, and Sarah Ellison from Hallinan Woods Acquisition

## **2. Operations**

### **• Minutes:**

**Resolved: Edited Minutes for December 14, 2018 were unanimously accepted.**

**• Finance Report:** Tom said that Stephanie did both a budget and year-end financial statement. He also reported that about \$400 is in a restricted fund for Hallinan Woods acquisition. Stephanie briefed the Council both on the Proposed 2019 Budget and the End of Year Statement. She reiterated that the budget is based on realities—what actually happened. Funding from government sources has been approved or committed which provides more stable income for our projects. Patrick can advance to  $\frac{3}{4}$  FTE and his hourly change can start this month. Though Stephanie will be doing the bookkeeping, we do have payroll service and web service contracted. Stephanie and Patrick disclosed financial details on specific projects like Westlake where contractors are involved, and funding is packaged from different sources like CCSW and Westlake HOA. As part of this total budget planning, Stephanie advised that if monies received are not spent in the fiscal year, they are accrued in a special reserve fund for future use

**Motion and Passage: Council Members by a unanimous vote approved the OLWC Proposed 2019 Budget**

**• New Representative from the City of Lake Oswego:** Rob is back for the time being!

## **3. Reports**

**• Watershed Coordinator:** Patrick gave Tom a \$10K check he received from CCSW. Of course, these funds come with the requirement to file an annual report on how the money was spent. Given this partnership from the County, it seems only reasonable to promote CSWCD on our website and social media. An article in the *Lake Oswego Review* regarding our partners may be a good, forthcoming story that Mary will follow up. Other topics could be an overview of our projects and the

Mountain Park culvert replacement. In his report on our **Westlake** project, Patrick talked about the contracted herbicide applications, his consulting with Noah and Morgan regarding tree removal in deference to the white oaks, and the tracking of natural branching development once spaces have been provided for new growth. Thoughts differed between consultants and CCSW on whether the whole 17 acre site should be done at once or start with a test plot. Patrick would like to GPS all the oaks and Mark said that the Lake Corps has a unit that could help do this. A special permit for removal needs to be worked out with the City in accordance with the Tree Code provisions. Care will be taken not to leave dead trees that could become hazardous. However, when possible, trees can be left for habitat trees. Such a site offers plenty of educational opportunities both for students and for the residential homeowners. In regards to **Mountain Park** project, Patrick said Rob was working to get a culvert removal permit through DSL. He said that the Army Corps of Engineers is insisting on a permit need. Time and energy is being spent to resolve these procedural difficulties and it seems that if people making the decisions could just visit the site, some resolutions would allow for progress. On **Park Academy** project, Patrick said that some planting was planned for February. Lastly, Patrick mentioned the **State of the Watershed** event and asked members to respond to his email request on best calendar date and for individual table involvement.

- **Hallinan Woods Acquisition:** Sarah Ellison said things were in a holding pattern and focus is on the upcoming Parks bond proposed for the May ballot where funding for acquisition would hopefully be part of this package. However, though citizens value natural areas, some “big ticket” items have been mentioned as possible Parks bond hopes. Some are advocating for not just a renewal of the current bond rate but for a 50% increase which would equate for the average residential owner of about \$50 per year to the current \$96.

- **Climate Action Plan:** Stephanie is working with the CAP Committee to get a tracking database set up and has met with Megan Big John to coordinate how best to incorporate what City is doing for tree planting. Stephanie has set March 1<sup>st</sup> as a goal for having this database set up and functional. She wishes to connect with schools—expanding on what has been done with what could be done. By fall, Stephanie hopes that we would have integrated this mission into our Strategic Plan and have kick-off events for designated plantings.

- **Thank You Get Together:** (Kept on the agenda but not attended to)

- **PRAB Goal for Restoration on Private Property:** Stephanie talked with Heidi Schrimsher and sees communicative partnering with this goal and PRAB members as potential projects for OLWC. It could also entail our Project Manager to become a full time equivalent.

#### **4. New Business**

- **School field trip program:** Stephanie talked about a partnership for an outdoor education coordinator for Riverdale that would be a half-time position with committed school funding of \$10,000 and an undisclosed source of \$15,000 that Stephanie could find. She thinks this could be a sustainable position and that some income could be garnered from school trip fees. Stephanie plans on continued

conversations with the principal and superintendent.

#### **5. Old Business**

- **Safety procedures: none**

- **Palisades Lake:** Jim visited the area and the water was deeper than what had been reported in December. Of course, the functionality of this older stormwater facility has been seriously compromised by lack of maintenance. The City is required to enforce or certify proper functioning of stormwater facilities so residents are trying to respond before they are forced to comply. Any OWEB grant for this would have to be prior to any mandate from the City. Apparently, Henderson has done some engineering and design figures but apparently not a work estimate.

#### **6. Public Comments and Announcements:**

- **4 County Weed Management Pull Together on January 16<sup>th</sup> at the Kennedy School**

- **Beaver Activity at the Wetland Conservancy January 31st**

- **Call of the Wild to save wolf population (Center for Biological Diversity)**

- **LOSN event Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- **Third Saturday work parties at Westlake 10:00-12:00 Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>**

- **Bare-root plant sales at EMSWCD**

**Next Meeting: February 8, 2019 8:00am**