

OSWEGO LAKE WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, September 14, 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, Rob Amsberry, Mary Ratcliff, Mark Rosenkranz, and Zsolt Lehoczky. Guests attending were Project Manager, Patrick Blanchard, and Tom Berridge from Westlake Homeowners Association.

2. Operations

• Minutes

Resolved: Minutes for August 10, 2018 were unanimously approved after noting Ryan Lentz' meeting attendance in lieu of Rob Amsberry.

• Finance Report: Stephanie reiterated what our Treasure, Tom Bland, reported to her before he left on vacation. Our balance is the same as last month yet we have received a \$9,900 check from the City of Lake Oswego for use on our restorative projects.

3. Reports

• Watershed Coordinator: Patrick said he has undertaken some preliminary work at our new **Westlake** site. He had the help of three interns over the summer who participated in trail work, monitoring, and invasive removal. With finances available, Patrick can now plan on herbicide treatment of invasive species at Westlake. The budgeted estimate for this three year project totals \$80,000 with funding coming from OLWC, OWEB grants, Clackamas County Soil and Water and the Westlake Homeowners Association. Regarding the **Mountain Park** project, Patrick said more site project information needs to be shared with the City since a tributary stream complicates procedural undertaking. One of the questions concerns whether rerouting the stream will be necessitated when the culvert is removed. Another problematic issue concerns the 9% slope plane. Patrick plans to use willow plantings and natural dams with small ponding. He will be checking on erosion control measures with the City. Concrete footings for a bridge will need a week of curing time. Rob can take look at the channel plan to help determine adequate flow capacities. In terms of our **Park Academy** project, Patrick mentioned a September 19th meeting on the newly purchased partition site. Questions remain on whether the natural resource area will follow some conservation or easement direction. The new developer/owner apparently is pursuing to have another entity like the Park Academy be responsible for its

on-going clean-up and maintenance. Stephanie cautioned that there needs to be a perceived benefit to the Park Academy to take this on as a commitment. The school year has just begun and once academics roll into gear, OLWC can help renew programs with students and advisors.

- **Hallinan Woods Acquisition:** Sarah reported on the Design Review Committee hearing of September 5th. Jim provided testimony regarding intrusion into the RP area by development plans. He would prefer residential lots avoid this incursion rather than have to mitigate for it. This could be accomplished, he thought, by smaller lot size that would still conform to code. Two lots were already undersize due to trade-offs for environmental protections. Unfortunately, Sarah said that Hallinan leadership has had virtually no personal communication with the owners to help address and negotiate particular concerns. Hallinan Woods organization still advocates for the City to make a market offer for the whole acreage or at the very least for a couple of the more sensitive environmental lots that contain wetlands or riparian ecologies. Fencing came up as another contentious issue. Also, no discussion incurred on what Jim sees as a real problem: the culverts that get occasionally plugged in high rainfall and then overflow corridor channels causing erosion and impacts on trails and landscapes. Jim does not believe the proposed stormwater treatments comport with current guidelines. He prefers to see a constructed wetland, a natural environment rather than the structured facilities. The DRC meeting was continued to this coming Monday when Jim plans to submit more testimony. Barbara mentioned the two culverts once again as an issue needing more resolution. Rob said that calculations showed that the pipe diameters were sufficient if maintained. However, collected debris will certainly reduce the capacity. Everyone agrees that a bridge would be the best solution but funding requires a source. Mike was wondering if wildlife fences would be required since young deer have been trapped in the enclosure already. Jim has spotted a short-tail weasel on the Hallinan Park site. Sarah hopes to find an environmental engineer to write a report for the DRC hearing.

4. New Business

- **Climate Action Plan:** Stephanie addressed the one year strategy planning for our OLWC coordination with LOSN on planting trees and saving trees. She stressed the need for measurable goals. She has talked with Larry who could not be present at this meeting. But they were talking about how the School District could be involved in this. Stephanie will also give a presentation for teachers' professional development day on the Climate Action Plan as a potential tool for learning. Specifics focus on local food production and tree planting with links to STEM education. The school landscape and campus could provide an outside laboratory setting for carbon sequestration work. This work with students, then, would also transfer to parents being more conscious of these community and global goals. Our Council would need logistics on inventory keeping possibly using our website. Mention was made of having a campaign written about in the local paper so this can become a community effort. Mountain Park and other entities like Friends groups could report their own annual tree planting efforts. Mitigation trees that replace removed trees would not be part of the calculation. However, if an invasive tree

were removed and replaced with an appropriate canopy tree, that would qualify. Members also thought we should work with HOA's in coordinating tree planting and saving. Dwight mentioned who on the Board would be taking the lead on this. Another goal would be to get alignment with the Parks Department on realistic feasibility concerns as well as to relieve them of any displacement of burden on them. Mary wondered if the City would help with support and staff. Others conjectured that City staff were already working in more than capacity mode and we would not want to place more expectations on them. But the Fishers thought this topic could be placed on the agenda for the Friends quarterly meeting organized by the Parks Department. Discussion ended with pursuit of who we bring on to help us: Weyerhaeuser, grants, links to website, linkage to heritage tree sites of the City, etc.

- **Employee Review Procedure:** Stephanie will meet with Tom and then get together with Patrick to go over a more systematic assessment of job fulfillment.

5. Old Business

- **Safety procedures:** One note: if you are working in the field on a project, let someone know where and when you are. Stay in contact.

- **Application for Board Membership:** The hope is that Tom Berridge will fill out an application for board membership on our Council. In an additional note on membership, Rob lamented his own termination letter from our board due to his increased work responsibilities but hopes that Ryan could return as his replacement. As erosion control specialist with a broad background, Ryan would be a very positive voice to have for our ongoing planning.

6. Public Comments and Announcements: Thoughts about a reception for incoming and outgoing members!

7. Meeting Adjourns at 9:35am.

Next Meeting October 12, 2018