

# OSWEGO LAKE WATERSHED COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES

Friday, October 8, 2021

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: (Online attendance):** Stephanie Wagner, Dwight Sangrey, Mary Ratcliff, Jim Fisher, Barbara Fisher, Thomas Benson, Tom Berridge, Mike Buck with Jack Halsey, Tod Blackenship, Kirsten Wright, and Allie Molen.

### 2. Operations

- **Minutes: Resolution: Minutes for September 10, 2021 were unanimously approved.**
- **Finance Report:** In the Treasurer's absence, Jack gave our OLWC bank account balance: \$38,815.60.
- **Board Hours Tracking:** Board members are encouraged to report hours.

### 3. Staff Reports

#### Watershed Coordinator--Jack

- **HEP 21-22 Updates:** Jack reminded everyone about the importance of personal hour tracking and getting hours recorded. He also offered members the ability to email him if they did not want to do this on-line. Jack opined that he was still waiting to talk with the City about the application which they have had for 3-4 months. Megan Big John said that the Selection Committee should be meeting soon. In response to a Board member asking who comprises this HEP decision-making Committee, Jack said that our liaison member, Thomas Benson, was not on it. It is handled by Parks and Recreation Department with Ivan Anderholm and possibly Sonja Johnson. He was not sure of the other members. Three other watershed councils are eligible for grant funding also. Jack has applied for \$30,000. He laments the "moving target" aspects of this process but appreciates its valued existence.
- **Fall project work:** Jack reported that Westlake will enter its second round of arborist work and ash release to benefit the Oregon white oak stand. This second phase should be completed by the end of October. He is ordering the materials, plants and seeds for Fall planting. In response to a question on what was done with the targeted ash trees, Jack said some were girdled and left standing; some were pruned up to 50% as allowed by code, and those that were felled are left on site in contact with the soil. Mike offered to send a link for a genetic study related to the Emerald ash borer. This group is asking for ash leaves. Jack lastly reiterated work party events on the 3rd Saturday of each month at Westlake. He will coordinate with site specific stewardship coordinators as planting schedules are phased in over fall on winter months. More will be revealed at October's Stewardship Committee meeting on October 28th.

#### Community Outreach Specialist--Allie

- **Urban Forest Committee Fall events:** Allie has been spearheading **Tree Summit III** with featured presenter, Dr. Christine Buhl, an entomologist and urban forest researcher; along with a City presentation over our 2019 LiDAR scan. The invitation should go out today for people to register. Allie said some activities were

planned to bring residents together in the fall: November 20th is *No Ivy Day* and multiple volunteer events are being coordinated. Also, Arbor Day planning is in its nascent, imaginative stage and she would appreciate people reaching out for ideas and activities.

- **LO Tree Trainings:** Allie conducted a training last week. Dwight asked if she could do a training session for a particular group, and Allie said she could certainly set this up. She is working on a tree survey with promising applications. Barbara complimented Allie on the last newsletter publication that was sent out on October 6th.

#### 4. Committee Reports

- **Stewardship Committee Report:** Tom Berridge had Barbara and Jim update members on Yates property acquisition, and they wondered about any role for the Watershed Council in its restoration needs. Stephanie will contact Megan Big John to find out. Some future project sites under consideration are: Uplands Condo Association; Child's road; Springbrook Project at French International School.
- **Education and Outreach Committee:** Stephanie is working with Parks and Recreation at Luscher Farm but she had to cancel a planned field trip due to increasing coronavirus worries. A workshop on soils is planned for this spring and summer. Undies will be given out at Luscher Farm with a "reveal" workshop 60 days later. Hopefully, students working with study plots will be encouraged. Stephanie reiterated that the **Tree Summit** will be on Zoom again. The Committee is looking at community schools and enrichment classes. These would be after-school service classes which would have a fee. Schools like Oak Creek that have a natural area adjacent to their campuses are prime candidates for these opportunities.
- **Governance Committee Report--Draft Stakeholder Agreement:** Dwight, Tom Bland and Stephanie worked on this draft agreement. "Stakeholders" are affiliations that deserve the clarity of a written statement regarding their interactions with our Council. A draft was linked to the Agenda for members to review. The draft consists of a "Preamble," "Purpose," and "Description" and these can be customized to stakeholders who might have different expectations; i.e., schools as opposed to Lake Corps. Discussion ensued about different kinds of stakeholders and reciprocal expectations. It would seem the Council's work with HOA's helped provide the stimulus for pursuing relational agreements. Tom Berridge brought up what he thought was a missing expectation: what can stakeholders expect from us in terms of updates, financial reports, professional expertise, educational programs, administrative support, etc. He thinks these should be included in the agreement. The Committee will be reaching out to existing stakeholders and getting their feedback on modifications. Further discussion ensued regarding voting privileges on the Board and the difference between active and passive capacities of members. The end result is to build long term relationships associated with our watershed.
- **Equity Action Team:** Jack had included the survey results in a link on the agenda. He screen shared the document and went over the anonymous responses by the 71% return rate. Board members expressed their own sensitivities to this issue especially as it related to the changing demographics in Lake Oswego and what this means for social equity.

#### 5. Old Business

- **City Charter Amendment Measure #3-575 Update:** Stephanie confirmed Board support for the passage and commented on how the OLWC was helping communication on these undoubtedly confusing ballot measures since they both reputedly are positive about preservation values. The differences in the measures are not self-evident and the nuances hard to decipher for people. She gave the *Friends of Lake Oswego Parks* website which provides more accurate information. Mary highlighted those stewards who have worked for years in restoration activity and respects their thoughts.
- **Job Review Update:** Jack's job review evaluation went out to members and Stephanie is pulling it together and will meet with Jack next week.

**6. New Business**

- **Site Update on Westlake:** Tom Berridge would rather do it another time since our meeting schedule has expired.
- **Budgeting process for 2022:** A Finance Committee meeting is scheduled to attend to the new budget.

**7. Public Comments and Announcements:** Stephanie confided that she will be having a back surgery. Westlake will have a work party on October 16th from 10:00am-noon.

**8. Meeting adjourns: 9:35am**

**Next Meeting: November 12, 2021 at 8:00pm (Postponed until December 10th)**