



Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Natural Resources Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: February 22, 2011

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Stuhr Center

In Attendance

Committee Members:	Rod Coles, Mitch Cruzan, Cory Samia, Eric Lindstrom
Staff:	Bruce Barbarasch
Guests:	Patrick Caldwell, Priscilla Christensen, Larry Hilton

I. Call to Order

Made by Rod at 6:30 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve – Mitch

Second – Cory

Discussion – No

Approved unanimous

III. Financial Report

None.

IV. Old Business

None.

V. New Business

1. Natural Resources Management Plan (NRMP) - Outline Goals for 2011 - Rod

If the goal is to better understand the NRMP; what should be our major area(s) of focus? Discussion:

- Rod suggests we identify some milestones that we can use to track/evaluate our efforts.
- Bruce feels that Chapters 1-3 are the most critical. Other material should be studied as well, but is more about details related to implementation.
- Cory likes the decision/prioritization matrix used to rate parks, and would like to see it included in the plan (not in current NRMP).
- Bruce explains previous approaches (c 2000) to ranking/prioritizing park projects and how these were incorporated into the current process. Also notes that current methodologies might require some additional study. Peer review was a feature and was provided by the Urban Ecosystem Research Consortium.
- Dialogue turns to methods for assessing success of park projects where work with wildlife and habitat are concerned.
- Back to question of how the Committee should interact with the plan, Cory explains that she is not heavily inclined to get too deeply into overall detail work related to the development of the overall plan, but wants to be involved in specifics. She is especially interested in the priority matrix document because knowing how decisions affecting development of a property were made will help her understand how to respond to a given plan.
- Eric sees the plan primarily as being a context builder that would help the Committee make more informed recommendations.
- Larry asks about conservation easements and the District's interest in them. Bruce states that they are a recommended part of the plan's strategy.

- Patrick asks Bruce how we should respond to information in the Plan. Bruce invites questions and constructive criticism from members of the Committee on any and all aspects. Patrick suggests breaking the plan down into sections.
- Rod makes the observation that he doesn't see much emphasis on education in the plan. Would like to see more structure.
- Discussion continues and Bruce provides information that helps clarify the difference between the NRMP and similar kinds of documents that focus on the specific details related to implementing management plans. Stresses that NRMP is a decision-making document.
- Cory would like to see decision matrix scores and a project summary, then make a site visit before we provide feedback on a given bond measure project.
- Rod thinks it is important that we understand scope and direction of the plan, and thinks we should engage in a formal review of the document.

Eric moves – The Committee will review the first three chapters of the NRMP and be prepared to offer perspective on processes for completing a review of the entire document by year's end. Members will also note areas of particular interest and or concern.

- Mitch seconds.
- Discussion – none.
- Motion approved.

2. Volunteering with Natural Resources events and projects - Rod

Does Advisory Committee want to become actively involved in the volunteer program? Two parts to this question:

1. Learn about and advise volunteer programs.
 2. Take on a specific project or otherwise commit to an additional volunteer project.
- Eric responds yes and no respectively.
 - Patrick worried about an additional time requirement.
 - Cory also "tapped out" for spare time but wants more direct involvement in District work.
 - Mitch suggests we engage in activities of our own choosing with the District that will better inform us in our work as a committee.
 - Consensus reached with regard to learning about volunteer programs through research or active involvement.
 - Committee would like to hear a presentation from Melissa Marcum.
 - Mitch notes importance of keeping track of hours spent engaged in activities outside committee work.

3. Park Updates/Renaming - Bruce

There is a suggestion before the Board that every natural area will have a name, a descriptor and the phrase "natural area." Well over half the properties would be impacted. Board would like to see some names shortened; would also like to hear public comments. Information will be distributed to neighbors and neighborhood associations.

VI. Other

- Cory had a question about where the formal mission for the Committee came from. Bruce responds that the Board made that decision.
- Cory also asked for an appraisal of how the formal Advisory Committee presentation to the Board went, and Rod explained.

VII. Next Meeting will be held on March 22, 6:30 pm, Elsie Stuhr Center.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Lindstrom
Recording Secretary