



Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Trails Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: December 20, 2011

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Elsie Stuhr Center; Beaverton, Oregon

In Attendance

Committee Members:

Vice Chair/Acting Chair Tom Hjort, Recording Secretary Joe Barcott, Barb Sonniksen, Susan Hanson, Mary O'Donnell, John Gruher, Jim Parsons, Bob Vanderbeck, Nathan Potter (Beaverton Bicycle Advisory Committee)

Ex-Officio Committee Members Present:

Margaret Middleton (City of Beaverton), Joy Chang (Washington County)

THPRD Staff Present:

Steve Gulgren, Ann Mackiernan

Absent:

Kevin Apperson, Metro representative (Mel Huie/Robert Spurlock), BSD representative (Kevin Sutherland)

Guests:

Walter Bartel (David Evans & Associates)

I. Call to Order

Acting Chair Tom Hjort called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Introduction of Committee Members, Guests and Visitors

Everyone present introduced themselves.

III. Approval of November Meeting Minutes

MOTION made (John) and seconded (Mary) for approval of November meeting minutes. Unanimous vote to approve.

IV. Announcements

Timing of Committee officer elections was discussed. Elections have always been in February, but it was agreed that beginning with 2012, they would be held during the January Committee meeting each year (catalyst: Wendy's resignation effective December 1, 2011 leaving the Committee without an elected Chair).

Discussion of Committee member reappointment and new member application (Bernadette Le): Steve announced that the terms of the following Committee members expire in February 2012: Mary, Barb, Susan, Tom, and Kevin. Susan announced that she would not be seeking reappointment. It was noted that Kevin has not attended a meeting for a long time (six or seven months) and that his interest is questionable. Steve offered to contact Kevin to determine whether he would like to remain on the Committee. Mary, Barb, and Tom confirmed they wish to be reappointed for another term and Steve gave them an application to submit for Board approval.

Steve announced the Board has approved Bob Vanderbeck's application so he is now a full voting Committee member.

Steve noted that Bernadette Le has submitted an application (dated 11/18/11) for Committee membership (she attended last month's meeting as a guest). **MOTION** made (Joe) and seconded (John) recommending that the Board approve of Bernadette's application. Unanimous vote to approve.

Jim thinks the Committee should again be nominated for a 2012 BTA Alice B. Toeclips award.

V. Program: Fanno Creek Trail Hall Boulevard Crossing

Walter Bartel (David Evans & Associates) gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the current status of its Fanno Creek Trail/Hall Boulevard crossing study; dividing the presentation into five categories: (1) Project Overview, (2) Crossing Alternatives, (3) Stakeholders Advisory Committee Recommendations, (4) Study Findings, and (5) Next Steps. Project goals are to "seek a design for a safe pedestrian & bicycle crossing . . . and determine the most reasonable option from several perspectives." Five alternatives were analyzed: (1) mid-block crossing, (2) bridge with two ramp alternatives, (3) pedestrian underpass, (4) SW Creekside Place & Hall Blvd, and (5) SW Greenway Drive & Hall Boulevard. The Stakeholders Advisory Committee's preferred recommendation is the underpass; second choice, a bridge.

In February there will be another open house for further public comment. A final decision from the Board is expected in April of 2012. Walt believes the project can be completed within two years of Board approval of a specific design if adequate funding is secured. Project website: <http://fannocrossinghall.org>

By show of hands six Committee members preferred the recommended underpass option, three were undecided/neutral, and no one demonstrated a preference for the bridge option.

VI. Update on THPRD's Comprehensive Plan (Ann Mackiernan)

Ann (THPRD Operations Analysis Manager) explained that she is managing an update of the District's 2006 Comprehensive Plan, emphasizing that this is only an update and not a re-write. The District is just "checking in" with the Plan to see where we are: just a "50,000' aerial review of the Plan." The 2006 Trails Plan will not be revised. Two significant events warranted this update: publication of the 2010 Federal Census results, and bond measure passage (making funds available). Ann explained that by February, demographic projections for the next 20 years should be issued at which time she will be able to determine how to best continue implementing the Plan. She will then attend another Committee meeting to discuss the update in more specific detail, and hopes to submit specific update suggestions to the Board by approximately August 2012.

Ann distributed a two-page document outlining and summarizing the anticipated update sequence, delineating the key process steps, and explaining the development of various "functional plans." The primary focus of this 2011-12 Comprehensive Plan update is to revise community assessment needs.

VII. Westside Regional Trail Master Plan Committee Report

Joe reported that the Committee's first meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2012. The Committee will examine its goals, aims, and objectives; and will visit trail sites.

VIII. Staff Update on Trail Projects

Lowami Hart Woods. Submission for land use this week (probably 12/22). Then City process will govern the development timeline.

Fanno Creek Trail (paralleling Allen Boulevard). Project is nearly completed. Steve hopes the trail can be open to the public in a couple of weeks (on January 3). Plantings will continue through February.

Bond Measure Trails. Rock Creek/North Bethany Trail now out to bid. Anticipate Board approval of a bid at its February 6, 2012 meeting. Westside/Waterhouse Trail: Some minor delays. Have to submit for land use permit. May have to invoke condemnation proceedings for one property.

Fanno Creek Trail/Hall Boulevard Feasibility Study. See Walter Bartel presentation above.

Westside Trail Segment 18. David Evans & Associates is consultant. District is currently negotiating scope of work and fees. Work should begin by February.

Waterhouse Trail Walker Road Crossing. Should be constructed in summer 2012.

IX. Partner Jurisdiction Updates

Washington County. Joy reports that the County has received applications from 35 people who wish to be appointed to the newly formed Transportation Citizens Advisory Committee; and that the Committee should be fully formed and functioning in the very near future. Joy also reported that the plan for North Bethany was finalized and adopted last month. The area is now designated for urban land use. Development is beginning. Joy announced that Portland Community College (on Springville Road) is doing some improvement to its campus.

City of Beaverton. Margaret says she has no trail related activity to report.

Beaverton School District. No representative present.

Beaverton Bicycle Advisory Committee. Nathan says he has nothing significant to report but that the Committee is working on developing a work plan; and reiterated that the Committee will schedule its summer Bike Beaverton event at a time when there is no conflict with other events.

Metro. No representative present.

X. Next Meeting will be held on January 17, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Barcott
Recording Secretary