



Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Trails Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: October 15, 2013

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Fanno Creek Service Center, Sequoia Conference Room, Beaverton, Oregon

In Attendance

Committee Members Present: Chair Tom Hjort, Vice Chair, John Gruher, Kevin O'Donnell, John Ratliff, Kevin Apperson, Elaine Woods
Ex-Officio Committee Members Present: Joy Chang (Washington County)
THPRD Staff: Steve Gulgren, Janelle St. Pierre
Visitors: Leda Mareth (Prospective Trails Committee member), Don Nearhood (Natural Resources Committee), Calin Gherghe (North Bethany Resident), Elaine Stewart (Metro)
Absent: Bernadette Le, Mary O'Donnell, Robert Spurlock (Metro)

I. Welcome

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

II. Introduction of Guests/Visitors

All present introduced themselves.

III. Approval of September Meeting Minutes and Volunteer Hours for September

MOTION made (John Gruher) and seconded (Elaine Woods) for approval of the September meeting minutes with revisions by the Committee. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

The volunteer hours sheet was passed around and each member recorded his or her September hours.

IV. Announcements

- A. Metro's Fall Trails Forum will be held Wednesday, October 23, at Metro Headquarters.
- B. Sharon Hoffmeister, THPRD, will attend the November meeting of the TAC.

V. Presentation - Native Meadows – New Landscape Opportunities for Power Line Corridors

- A. Elaine Stewart, Metro, outlined a plan to landscape power line corridors with native materials including wildflowers. Purpose would be to improve habitat for small animals and foster pollination. It would also beautify the corridors. Maintenance would be reduced due to less mowing and removal of blackberries. Many trails are located within power line corridors.

A bridge to carry Westside Trail over Highway 26 is needed. The bridge could include a naturally landscaped area parallel to the trail for animal movement.

Metro is now seeking partners, funding and pilot projects for the Native Meadows program.

- B. Janelle St. Pierre described one such pilot project: Rock Creek Greenway @ 185th Pollinator Project. Budget is \$30,000. Planting to be completed by March 2016.

VI. TAC Application

The TAC reviewed Leda Mareth's application for membership on the Committee. Leda described her background, expressed strong interest in joining the TAC and answered members' questions.

MOTION made (Kevin O'Donnell) and seconded (John Gruher) to recommend that the Board of Directors appoint Leda Merath to the Trails Advisory Committee. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

VII. Margaret Middleton Thank You

MOTION made (John Gruher) and seconded (Kevin O'Donnell): We, the members of the Trails Advisory Committee express our deep appreciation to Margaret Middleton for her many years of active participation on the Committee as well as for her always valuable advice and analysis regarding topics and issues brought before the Committee; and, we extend our most sincere best wishes to Margaret for the future.

VIII. Staff Update on Trails Projects

A. Bond Measure Trails Update

- i. **Westside:** Substantial completion granted for segments 4 and 7. The segment 1 bridge is installed and the segment is paved.
- ii. **Rock Creek:** Complete. No further updates.
- iii. **Waterhouse:** All segments paved. Finish mid-block crossings next February or March.
- iv. **Lowami Woods:** Scheduled for completion Nov. 25th.

B. MTIP Funding

Westside segment 18: Planning moving forward. Property acquisition to take six months (instead of the 12 months previously anticipated).

C. Fanno Creek Trail/Hall Boulevard At-Grade Crossing:

Construction under way. Signal poles to be delivered in November.

IX. Partner Jurisdiction Updates

A. Washington County – Joy Chang:

- i. Joy to visit Seattle area trails and may report her observations to the TAC at our next meeting.
- ii. Other trail developments within Washington County include: Master Planning by Oregon State Parks for the Salmonberry Trail, Banks to Wheeler to Tillamook; and Council Creek Plan, project manager City of Forest Grove, consultant Parametrix

B. Beaverton Bicycle Advisory Committee – John Ratliff:

- i. The initiative to encourage employers to install bicycle racks continues.
- ii. Beaverton's Neighborhood Bikeway Plan will be presented October 21, 4:30-6 p.m. at the Beaverton Community Center across from the Library.

Advisory Committee Questionnaire

The Committee discussed responses to the questionnaire provided by Sharon Hoffmeister. Tom will prepare a draft of our responses. He will circulate this draft for comment. The final questionnaire/responses will be submitted to Ms. Hoffmeister before our next meeting.

X. Annual Calendar 2013

Tom distributed the latest version of the Annual Calendar.

XI. Open Discussion

- A. Kevin O'Donnell asked that the extending Westside Trail Segment 18 north to Springville Road be a future TAC agenda item.
- B. Tom reported that, at the last meeting of the Aloha Reedville Study Citizens Advisory Committee, the assistant Mayor of Hillsboro stated that the area between the west THPRD boundary and the east City of Hillsboro boundary was in limbo regarding trails and parks. Thus, there appears to be minimal planning by Hillsboro to connect to Beaverton Creek Trail at the THPRD boundary.
- C. During their site visit to Westside Trail, members of the TAC observed that large coarse gravel had been placed as shoulders for trail pavement. This is a safety hazard for cyclists that may veer off

the pavement. The coarse gravel would not firmly support bicycle tires thus causing falls and injuries. The coarse gravel was a condition of the Clean Water Services/City of Beaverton permit. The purpose of the rock is to drain storm water runoff from the pavement. However it is dubious that such a small quantity of runoff justifies coarse gravel, especially in light of the safety issue. This is a topic for a future TAC meeting.

XII. Next Meeting will be held on November 19, 2013, 7:00 p.m., at the Fanno Creek Service Center.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Hjort
Recording Secretary, Rotating