



CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO
Natural Resources Advisory Board Minutes

February 8, 2012

Call to order / Roll call

Co-chair Denise Dailey called the February 8, 2012 meeting of the Natural Resources Advisory Board (NRAB) to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Yamhill Room of the West End Building, 4101 Kruse Way, Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Members present: Co-chair Denise Dailey, Michelle Buncke (Youth Member), Craig Stephens, Kara Warner, Stephanie Wagner, and Benjamin Clark

Members excused / absent: Co-chair Doug Rich

Council Liaison: Councilor Donna Jordan. Councilor Mary Olson was also present.

Guest(s): Laura Masterson; Rick Cook; Cheryl Uchida, Waluga Neighborhood Association; Bill Ward, Chair, Lake Grove Neighborhood Association; Mike Buck, Friends of Iron Mountain

Staff: Andrea Christenson, Natural Resources Planner; Morgan Holen, Contract Arborist

Announcements

None

Public Comment

Mr. Cook related that the State had designated a tree grove on his property as a Heritage Tree Grove.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of October 10, 2011 (joint meeting) and October 19, 2011 were amended and accepted by unanimous agreement.

Review City Council Rolling Agenda

Councilor Jordan reported that the City Council had discussed invasive species removal and Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) expansion at its last meeting. The staff had recommended an invasives removal program that involved chemical spraying. An area would be sprayed; checked and re-sprayed; then cleared and replanted. Staff reported the chemicals used were recommended by Metro and were not supposed to create a problem in riparian areas. Spraying would address the most acreage for the money spent. It would cost \$4,200 per acre to do chemical spraying and \$56,000 per acre to do mechanical removal of ivy. The Budget Committee was scheduled to start meeting in April.

Co-chair Dailey talked about asking for funding for a volunteer coordinator who would train volunteers to do removal. Ms. Warner indicated she was not concerned about use of chemicals as long as they were applied according to the directions on the label. Mr. Stephens expressed concern about health and safety risks from chemicals and wanted more details regarding what was used and where. Co-chair Dailey asked Ms. Christenson to help the board get that information. Mr. Stephens indicated he was concerned the staff was not following the directions. He was concerned about the risk that sprayers might walk in with things like garlic mustard seeds on their boots. He suggested people compare the portion of George Rogers Park where ivy had been manually removed with the portion of the park where it had been sprayed.

Council Jordan related that the UGB expansion would bring city-owned properties under city control. She clarified that not all of the Luscher Farm area city-owned properties would be brought into the UGB. Councilor Olson provided a map of the proposed UGB boundary. Co-chair Dailey related that Mayor Hoffman had called a meeting of board and commission chairs the following Tuesday. Councilor Jordan anticipated their input would help craft the resolution that the City Council would send to Metro. Co-chair Dailey asked NRAB members for input to take to that meeting. She recalled concern that the sewer for a tennis center would go through wetlands. Councilor Jordan anticipated the tennis center refinement plan would show where utilities would be located.

Heritage Tree Designations

Ms. Holen reported that four trees had been nominated for Heritage Tree designation. She had examined and assessed each of them. She provided a map that showed the locations. She discussed each nominated tree. She recommended designating the coast redwood on 9th Street; the Douglas-fir at Six Corners on Country Club Road (a Century Tree); and an Oregon white oak in East Waluga Park. She did not recommend designating a mature weeping willow on River Run Drive because it was in a state of progressive decline and had some structural issues; it was on private property, straddled the property line, and overhung the property of a neighbor who had not provided any comment about it; and in some regions (but not in Lake Oswego) weeping willows were considered invasives in riparian areas. Ms. Buncke observed it was located where it would not be very visible to or accessible by the public.

Mr. Stephens **moved** to designate the three trees recommended by Ms. Holen (in Exhibits B, C, and D). Co-chair Dailey **seconded** the motion and it **passed** by unanimous vote. Ms. Holen planned to organize a Heritage Tree designation ceremony the first week of April at East Waluga Park.

Finished Water Pipeline delineation and mitigation project

Ms. Christenson reported the staff had found the LO-Tigard Water Partnership's application was incomplete. The applicant was working on a revised proposal. Once it was resubmitted and deemed complete notice would be mailed to affected property owners and there would be a 14-day public comment period. The mitigation proposal would be reviewed and decided at the staff level. Their decision could be appealed to the DRC. If the NRAB submitted comments they would be in the hearing record. She related she had asked Parks staff why the proposed mitigation site had been selected. Ryan Stee explained it in a memorandum she would distribute to the NRAB members. One of the reasons was that the site had been purchased with Metro bond money and there was a commitment to restore the stream corridor there. They had decided not to select the area of an old foundation because the cost would be beyond what they believed was a reasonable level of mitigation based on the impacts. Mr. Ward and Mr. Buck recalled an agreement that the money that would have been used to restore the staging area after the sewer project would be held and added to the amount to be spent to restore it after the water project. They related that volunteers would be removing invasives from nearby

property and the two stream restoration projects would fit together. They anticipated that Iron Mountain property owners would not support restoration that was just reseeding grass because grass would pose a fire hazard. Mr. Ward advised it would be inexpensive and easy for the applicant to remove the foundation when they already had equipment and trucks there. Ms. Christenson related one of the reasons the application had been found to be incomplete was the applicant needed to expand the size of the area and staff did not know which direction they would go. Mr. Buck and some board members recalled the Metro money had been used to purchase some other property in the area, not the proposed restoration site. Ms. Wagner anticipated the applicant could get a Nature and Neighborhoods grant to do the work.

The Board asked Ms. Christenson to find out how much the applicant estimated it would cost to remove the foundation and restore that site and what the applicant expected to spend on the mitigation site they currently proposed. The Board planned to compare the amounts. They asked her to ask for proof that Metro bond funds had been used to purchase the site. She asked if Mr. Ward and Mr. Buck had discussed the matter with the water pipeline project team. They explained they planned to wait for the applicant to go through the permitting process. Mr. Ward reported another potential issue that the Hunt Club might want to use some of the rock and gravel to elevate some of its paddocks and corrals, which were in the floodplain.

Review of City Council goal setting session with Board and Committee chairs

Co-chair Dailey reported she and Co-chair Doug Rich had presented the NRAB's accomplishments and goals at a meeting of City Councilors and the chairs of City boards and commissions.

Review of Community Summit on Inspiring Spaces and Places

Co-chair Dailey reported the two Co-chairs attended this summit. Some of the same questions participants had discussed were online. Ms. Christenson conveyed the Comprehensive Plan update team's request that NRAB members who had not attended complete the online survey. She advised that the NRAB would be involved in helping prepare for the upcoming Healthy Ecosystems summit.

NRAB recruitment update

There would soon be a total of three open board positions. Ms. Christenson reported that four applications had been submitted. The deadline for applying had been extended to March 15. The Board expressed its interest in expediting the interview process.

Adjournment

The next meeting was scheduled on March 14, 2012. There being no other business Co-chair Dailey adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Christenson
Natural Resources Planner