



## NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD

### MINUTES

Wednesday March 5, 2014

Co-Chair Todd Van Rysselberghe called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 380 A Avenue.

**Present:** Co-Chairs Heidi Schrimsher and Todd Van Rysselberghe, Nick Berardi, Frank Junga, James Kandell, Gregory McMurray and Craig Stephens. Kavya Sreedhar (Youth Member) was not present. Council Liaison Lauren Hughes was present.

**Staff Present:** Andrea Christenson, Natural Resources Planner/Staff Liaison

**Guests:** Mark Rosenkranz, Lake Oswego Corporation; Kara Warner and Carol Ockert

#### CITIZEN COMMENT

**Carol Ockert, 910 Cumberland Rd., FAN/Forest Hills Neighborhood Association regarding their Heritage Tree Grove nomination.**

Ms. Ockert asked the NRAB to evaluate and give the Association feedback on the value of the three trees on a city-owned parcel behind Forest Hills Elementary School. Their application had been held back by the City Manager because designation could make the site less attractive to potential buyers if the Council decided to sell it. She conveyed that Councilor Bowerman thought would be a lovely site for the Arbor Day celebration.

Comments during the ensuing discussion included that nothing had been brought to the Council in regard to this; it could be called Stafford Tree Grove as it was across from William Stafford's house; another of the City Manager's reasons was that he did not feel the trees were old enough to qualify; the NRAB needed to talk about all of the Douglas fir trees that were being cut down in FAN and how to address the fact that fir trees were not appropriate on those little lots; Heritage Tree(s) was defined as a tree or group of trees of landmark importance due to age, size, species, horticultural quality or historic importance and there was no specific age criteria; Heritage Tree designation did not necessarily prevent removal; trees on a property could make it more desirable; and NRAB members should go look at the trees and then review the Parks plan, and the criteria for disposition of parks and for Heritage Trees.

**Action: This item was added to the next meeting agenda. NRAB members were to look at the site and then review the City's disposition policy, Parks 2025 Plan, and the criteria.**

**Lisa Fopel, 5655 SW Kenny, regarding rare plants in Canal Acres Park; point source pollution from the Pacific Lumber property; and resource delineation on a lot at 19242 Childs Road.**

Ms. Fopel was concerned about protecting trilliums in Canal Acres Park. She reported that paving and removal of landscaping on the Pacific Lumber property at Lakeview/Jean Roads caused a lot of smelly runoff to drain offsite and eventually into the lake. The neighborhood wanted them to address it on site. She explained that the City wanted the Childs Road builder to position the house near the front of the lot, but the neighborhood wanted it positioned further back, outside of the area of clay and springs in front, and in an area of less significant trees, where it would not create drainage problems, interfere with the Canal Acres/Bryant Woods park experience, or impede drivers' vision.

In regard to protecting rare plants, Ms. Christenson suggested Ms. Fopel contact Parks and Recreation staff in charge of maintaining Open Spaces. Suggestions in regard to drainage concerns were to talk to

Engineering staff, the Watershed Council, and the homebuilder about it. Ms. Christenson recalled she and Planner Andreades had reviewed the homebuilder's application. He was required to protect at least 50% of the RC District tree grove on site in a Resource Protection Conservation Area (RCPA). He had proposed the shape of the RCPA and asked for an exception to the front yard setback. Planner Andreades' report likely discussed how any floodplain there was to be addressed. If the neighborhood had additional questions they could contact Ms. Andreades and Ms. Christenson.

#### **CITY COUNCIL UPDATE**

Councilor Hughes related the Council had funded repairs to the Iron Mountain Sanitary Sewer and Pedestrian Bridge; approved the full Comprehensive Plan update package; discussed the golf course study; reappointed Todd Van Rysselberghe to the NRAB; approved water treatment plant equipment; approved an IGA with City of Gladstone; and overturned the DRC denial of a variance connected to the Goodwill development application. They had discussed keeping Lake Oswego in the loop in regards to the Urban Reserves in Stafford and remanded the WEB rezone to the Planning Commission. The Wizer block development applicant had asked for an indefinite continuance so they could go back to the drawing board. Ms. Christenson agreed to ensure all NRAB members had copies of 2014 Council Goals. She announced the Council was going to proclaim Arbor Week and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lake Oswego Tree City status and hear the remanded the isolated tree groves legislative proposal.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Action: The Minutes of August 14, 2013 & September 11, 2013 were corrected and approved.**

#### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

##### **Mark Rosenkranz, Lake Oswego Corporation, on water quality testing**

Mr. Rosenkranz related the Corporation had full time water quality monitoring staff. They had modified the dam to control flood waters. He described the aeration system and aluminum sulfate treatment they employed to control phosphorus; that they required decontamination of boats and barges to prevent invasive species from entering; and that they monitored outfalls from the watershed, working closely with the City and the Oswego Lake Watershed Council.

During the discussion Mr. Rosenkranz explained how they used nutrient control to deal with toxic bacteria growth that would impact the lake ecosystem. He explained how the aeration system and alum method worked and that alum it did not harm organisms. He advised the single biggest source of phosphorus entering the lake was from the Bryant Springs wetland. He related that the Corporation had once unsuccessfully tried to have the City Council adopt a phosphorus-free ordinance, but since then commercial companies had started selling phosphorus-free fertilizers. He did not think lakeshore properties were the source of phosphorus because their lawns were so small. He confirmed that people were not always knowledgeable about not putting chemicals in storm drains. He indicated he believed that the LOIS project had helped reduce incursion of ground water into the sanitary system. He clarified the Corporation did not typically publish the results of its weekly tests and they tested for other things besides phosphorus. He was not concerned about a break in the sewer line in the lake because he anticipated lake water was more likely to go into the pipe. He related they had never had an issue with a failed pump station pump leaking into the lake. He related that since the LOIS project there had been no sewage overflows into the lake.

##### **Update on Friends of Woodmont Park**

Mr. Berardi reported Ryan Stee was about to review the application and another staffer had been put in charge of helping the friends groups. He anticipated reporting back to the Board after he met with them. He planned to talk with Mr. Stee about abnormal-looking water emptying into the wetlands that

Mr. Stephens had observed. He reported that PRAB was also interested in friend groups, in potentially adding a second urban farm area; and in forming a parks foundation.

#### **Update on Arbor Week events / Farmers' Market dates**

Arbor Week was April 6-12. Ms. Christenson talked about the schedule of events during Arbor Week (April 6-12) and after. She planned to circulate it with a volunteer signup sheet. She had reserved booth space at the June 21 and September 13 Farmers' Markets. She reported that someone had volunteered to help put on the poster contest for grades 6 – 12.

#### **Information from Board members and staff**

The Board welcomed new member Frank Junga. Ms. Schrimsher conveyed PRAB's request for a joint meeting. Councilor Hughes suggested NRAB could ask the Budget Committee to fund the volunteer coordinator position. Mr. McMurray announced a Free-the-Tree event the following Saturday in Waluga Park. He announced the course, Ecology of the Willamette Valley, was being offered by the Oregon Master Naturalist Program. He presented a rose to past NRAB member Kara Warner for her leadership and expertise.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular meeting was scheduled on April 2, 2014. Co-Chair Van Rysselberghe adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannan Lenke Stoll  
Assistant Natural Resources Planner

Link to meeting documents and meeting audio file: [https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/boc\\_nrab/natural-resources-advisory-board-13](https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/boc_nrab/natural-resources-advisory-board-13)