

**CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO
NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

March 13, 2001

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I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Keith Moe called the Natural Resources Advisory Board meeting of March 13, 2001 to order at approximately 6:00 PM in the Human Resources Conference Room of City Hall, at 380 A Avenue, Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Members present were Chair Moe, Vice Chair Christine Roth, Sarah Asby*, Deborah Shimkus*, Russell Jones, Jonathan Snell* and Nicholas Vance*. Guests present were John E. Keller, 1301 Horseshoe Curve, Lake Oswego, 97034; and Victoria McDonald and her son, Jonathan McDonald, 5055 SW Dawn, Lake Oswego, 97035.

Staff present were Sidaro Sin, Associate Planner; Lisa Hamerlynck, (new Natural Resource Coordinator effective start date April 2, 2001, there only as an observer); and Nancy Bantz, Special Projects.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Sin introduced Lisa Hamerlynck, the City's new Natural Resources Coordinator. She will start on April 2, 2001. She agreed to attend the meeting to observe the Board operations. He also reported that the City Council had adopted the Open Space Master Plan and the Canal Area Master Plan.

*Deborah Shimkus joined the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of February 13, 2001 were unanimously approved by the members who were present with one clarification on page 2 that the Board had discussed participating in a program that would be *similar* to the Portland Tree Liaison program. Sarah Asby, Jonathan Snell and Nicholas Vance were not present for the vote.

IV. PUBLIC MEETING

Stonebridge Way Heritage Tree

John E. Keller, 1301 Horseshoe Curve, Lake Oswego, 97034, a resident who had nominated a Stonebridge Way sequoia tree for Heritage Tree status, was present for the discussion. Mr. Moe reported that volunteer arborist, Terrill Collier, had confirmed that the tree was healthy enough to be designated as a Heritage Tree. (Please refer to the

staff report regarding the Stonebridge Way sequoia heritage tree nomination.) The members indicated their desire to document how the tree was linked to the history of the Glenmorrie Neighborhood.

Mr. Moe moved to designate the Stonebridge Way sequoia tree as a City of Lake Oswego Heritage Tree. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous agreement of the members present. Sarah Asby, Jonathan Snell and Nicholas Vance were not present for the vote.

V. REGULAR BUSINESS

Eagle Scout Project Ideas

Jonathan McDonald, 5055 SW Dawn, Lake Oswego, 97035, proposed to construct a boardwalk and clean and grub trails within the Bryant Woods Nature Area as part of an Eagle Scout project. He explained that he had selected projects that would help to achieve the goals of the recently adopted Canal Acres Master Plan and promote the Scouts' commitment to community service. He said he planned to enlist the help of 25 members of Boy Scout Troop #146 and other volunteers, to provide equipment for the project, and to provide construction specifications, if no plans were already available. He clarified that the Scouts organization only permitted adult volunteers to operate power tools. He said he intended to collect materials donations from the City and others and coordinate press coverage by the *Lake Oswego Review* and *Oregonian* newspapers. He anticipated that construction of the walkway could be accomplished during two weeks of dry summer weather, but might take longer if a cement foundation was required. He indicated his hope that the City would provide the plants because he feared that donated plants might not be as healthy. He advised that planting should be accomplished after construction of the walkway. Board members could not recall whether a plan for the walkway had already been created, so they suggested that Mr. McDonald discuss the matter with Ron Bunch, Special Projects. Ms. Roth advised that she and the Friends of Bryant Woods had drafted a proposal to dredge the pond in the Natural Area this year in order to improve wildlife habitat and raise the water level to a level that would kill nuisance plants there. She recalled the area had been considered the best red leather frog habitat in the Willamette Valley before the 1996 flood. She noted that the Canal Acres Master Plan called for a boardwalk and a larger pond. She cautioned that the dredging should be accomplished before the start of construction of the boardwalk. She reported that the state sometimes expedited permits to allow municipalities to repair wetlands.

Members acknowledged that the success of the dredging, boardwalk and trails projects depended upon appropriate timing and coordination of projects, weather and funding. Mr. McDonald indicated that he would also seek approval of the project by the Eagle Scouts Board. The NRAB anticipated that dry weather predicted for this summer would help speed the dredging activity; that it could be accomplished by City employees from the Parks & Recreation or Maintenance Departments (thereby saving approximately \$16,000 the City's master planning consultant had estimated as the cost of the project); and that Mr. McDonald would be able to construct the boardwalk during the summer. They agreed to propose that the City fund the projects. Ms. Roth agreed

to include Mr. McDonald's project in her proposal to the Budget Committee. She advised the final budget was to be approved in May 2001.

*Mr. Moe observed that Sarah Asby, Jonathan Snell and Nicholas Vance had joined the meeting.

New meeting schedule

The NRAB agreed to schedule future meetings on the first Monday of each Month. The change was made to avoid conflicts with Tuesday City Council meetings. The next meeting was to be held on April 2, 2001, beginning at 6:00 PM.

Mr. Sin advised that he would need to look into the availability of the Human Resource conference room and discuss the time change with the Planning Manager. He indicated that he would send out an e-mail or contact members regarding the date of the next meeting.

NRAB Annual Work Program

The members reviewed a Work Plan Summary Memorandum that had been prepared by the staff. The Memorandum suggested that the NRAB prioritize work on advocacy items they had discussed at past meetings (including enhancement grants, surface water management programs and a community forestry program) to ensure the times were considered for funding during the City's current budgeting process. Mr. Moe recalled the Board had already included advocacy of a community forestry program as one of its three priority goals for the year. The Board agreed to make the advocacy of projects in the Bryant Woods Natural Area a priority and to look for new projects that would reflect the intent of the Open Space Master Plan. They acknowledged the need for an open space maintenance plan and budget. They wondered whether the City still dedicated staff to natural area maintenance. They agreed to seek more information regarding the purpose of mapping natural areas. Ms. Hamerlynck related that she had recently completed a natural resource management plan for the Tualatin Parks and Recreation Department and was to use that expertise in her new position in Lake Oswego. She envisioned a long-range, incremental budget to fund such a plan. Ms. Roth recalled the Council had discussed the possibility of a parks and open space levy.

Ms. Roth agreed to draft a letter advocating continued funding of the enhancement grant program. Mr. Moe opined that smaller enhancement award amounts would still effectively encourage grass roots enhancement efforts. The Board decided to research and recommend ways to increase the effectiveness of existing funding of the storm water management program. Mr. Snell agreed to discuss the storm water management program with Engineering Department staff, then research and draft a letter in which the NRAB would suggest ways to manage for green infrastructure (e.g., soft engineering, swales and increased infiltration) that could be accomplished through reallocation of existing funds. They anticipated further discussion with Engineering Department staff at a future meeting.

The members observed that the recently approved Open Space Master Plan called for an urban forestry program. They agreed the appointment of an urban forester to coordinate the program, issue permits and measure trends would benefit the City. They discussed the importance of a street tree program and other educational programs.

The Board set advocacy priorities as follows:

1. Bryant Woods implementation projects
2. Other master planning tasks: Either Woodmont (as a joint project with the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board) or Iron Mountain (both the Park and Natural Area). Their choice was to be Iron Mountain if a joint project with PRAB could not be accomplished. They noted the Iron Mountain area was experiencing development pressure and contained a rare Larkspur plant and historic mining tunnels.
3. Enhancement Grant Program advocacy (including \$10,000 funding for the program).

Open Space Master Plan Implementation Recommendations

The members agreed to continue their discussion of Open Space Master Plan Implementation at the next meeting.

Wrap up Arbor Day Plans

Mr. Moe reported that he had arranged for an Arbor Day announcement to be inserted in the April edition of *Hello LO!* He announced that arborist Terry Flannigan had agreed to lead a Tree Walk through the First Addition on April 7, 2001. The Tree Walk was scheduled to begin at City Hall at 10:00 AM.

Open Board Position

Ms. Roth reported that a review group had interviewed candidates for the open Board position and had submitted a nominee to the City Council.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Moe adjourned the meeting at 8:06 PM. The next NRAB meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 2, 2001 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sidaro Sin
Associate Planner

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