



CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

May 7, 2001

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Keith Moe opened the meeting of May 7, 2001 at 6:30 PM in the Human Resources Conference Room of City Hall, 380 A Avenue, Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Members present were Chair Moe, Vice Chair Christine Roth, Sarah Asby, Russell Jones, Deborah Shimkus, Jonathan Snell, Kelly Riordan and Nicholas Vance. Staff present were Doug Schmitz, City Manager; Tom Tushner, Principal Engineer; and Lisa Hamerlynck, Natural Resource Coordinator.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION [pursuant to ORS 192.610(h) Real Property]

The members met in executive session to deliberate with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions. Mr. Moe then reconvened the regular meeting.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None.

V. REGULAR BUSINESS

Lamont Springs/Bryant Road Project

Tom Tushner, Principal Engineer, Engineering Department, described the Lamont Springs/Bryant Road Project to improve Bryant Road between Lakeview Boulevard and Boones Ferry Road. He explained it was to be accomplished in two phases: an interim (short term) phase, and a longer-term phase (to prepare for 2020) at a projected total cost of \$650,000. The interim phase would include the installation of a signal at the intersection of Upper Drive and Bryant Road, corner improvements there, some minor improvements to radius returns, and the addition of a pathway. The longer term phase would widen the roadway, add sidewalks and bikeways and create a new left turn lane at the intersection. He clarified that the interim impact to Lamont Springs would total 300 square feet (to accommodate the signal and curbing), and the longer-term impact

would be 650 square feet and would mean that more trees would need to be removed from the area, and some trees would need to be trimmed during the interim project. He presented the conceptual design for the interim plan signal area and pointed out trees that could be impacted by construction, including a dead tree, a horse chestnut tree and a large alder tree. The Board observed that the area contained a culvert and ditch to deal with storm water runoff and a year round spring. They recommended increased storm water management planning there. Mr. Moe expressed his concern that drainage improvements would impact the hydrology of Lamont Springs. Mr. Tushner reported that residents of the area generally support the project, particularly the plan to address the grade in the area of the railroad crossing. He related that the Engineering Department was working on storm water management in the area under a separate plan, and that plan would be folded into the interim project. He reported that the interim phase had been funded and the start of construction was anticipated in August 2001 and could take several months. The NRAB members indicated their general support for the project if water management issues were addressed.

Update on HRAB Letter to Budget Committee

Ms. Roth presented a draft letter from the NRAB to the Budget Committee that supported funding for implementation of the Canal Acres/Bryant Woods Master Plan. She said she understood the draft budget included funding for the Bryant Woods pond project, as well as funding for Open Space Enhancement Grants. Board members indicated their approval of the letter.

Draft Capital Improvement Plan – Natural Resources Projects

The Board reviewed the draft Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). They observed that the Bryant Woods pond project had received funding in the amount of \$150,000 (see Minor Park Improvements). They noted that stream restoration funding was to come from utility revenue, but that many surface water management projects were as yet unfunded. They decided to invite Chris Jordan, Director of Finance, to the next meeting to discuss the CIP budgeting process and clarify how the NRAB could participate in the process. They noted the City Council was to consider recommendations from the Budget Committee at their June 5, 2001 meeting. The Board agreed that Ms. Roth, Ms. Asby and Ms. Shimkus would attend the meeting to discuss NRAB project funding priorities.

Ms. Hamerlynck reported that the City planned to select a consultant with natural resources expertise to accomplish a master plan for George Rogers Park. She also related that public meetings were to be held to solicit resident's comments regarding the plan and she anticipated that the public would request that trails and natural areas be included in the plan. She agreed to forward the public meeting schedule to NRAB members. Ms. Roth related that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) chair had confirmed to her that PRAB was very interested in promoting master planning for Woodmont Park next year, and was open to the suggestion for a joint NRAB/PRAB meeting and creation of a project subcommittee.

The NRAB agreed to stress to the City Council the importance of budgeting for maintenance of the City's Open Spaces. Ms. Hamerlynck advised that nearby jurisdictions at all levels were becoming aware of the need for open space management plans. Members observed that the Old River Road Pathway project was to receive funding. Ms. Roth advised that some funds that had once been slated for Bryant Woods had been transferred to the Pathway project. Members noted that funding in the amount of \$117,000 for first year implementation of the Canal Acres/Bryant Woods Master Plan had been scheduled for 2003. They discussed how future planning of natural areas should be prioritized. Ms. Roth suggested that the City plan one natural area per year. She also suggested that the next area to be planned be Iron Mountain, because the City Manager had already suggested that a pathway with benches or picnic tables be constructed there.

The Board agreed to send the memorandum to the Budget Committee (drafted by Ms. Roth) advocating funding for the implementation of the Canal Acres/Bryant Woods Master Plan, and a letter (with a copy to the Council) to Ron Bunch, Special Projects, prioritizing natural area implementation and planning as listed below.

1. Implement the Canal Acres/Bryant Woods Master Plan (see NRAB memorandum to the Budget Committee);
2. Create a master plan for George Rogers Park natural area;
3. Create a master plan for Iron Mountain Park and natural area and make minor interim improvements that would add interest to the area.
4. Create a master plan for Woodmont Park (jointly with the PRAB).

The letter was to indicate that the NRAB looked forward to being engaged in the budgeting process at an earlier stage next year. Ms. Asby agreed to draft the letter and send it to the members for their comments.

NRAB members stressed that the CIP included many unfunded surface water management projects that would help bring the City into conformance with requirements of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). They decided to express that concern in a separate memorandum and send it after the Council's budgeting meeting on June 5, 2001.

Open Space Maintenance

Ms. Hamerlynck reported that she was to meet the next week with the Director of the Maintenance Department and the Parks Maintenance staff person to discuss maintenance of natural areas.

Update and Finalize 2001 NRAB Work Program

The members indicated their approval of the 2001 NRAB Work Program. They added an item to schedule budget discussions in September 2001.

Natural Area Mapping & Proposed Management/Maintenance Guidelines

Ms. Hamerlynck reported that she had visited with former staff advisor, Deb Lev, to discuss natural areas mapping. She presented the City GIS map and explained that it was important to clearly map natural areas in order to appropriately manage them (as areas that were to remain natural in perpetuity, areas that were to serve as transition zones, etc.) and to ensure natural areas would not be formalized into active use parks or ball fields. She advised that the classification of an area would also serve as a guide for maintenance personnel, who would then know, for example, that a transition area next to a trail was not to be sprayed. The Board planned to define management zones and recolor the map to illustrate natural area management zones. Ms. Hamerlynck advised that PRAB should also be involved in the mapping project. The NRAB decided to discuss the project with PRAB at their joint meeting and to ask the City Manager how a joint subcommittee with PRAB could be formed.

Community Forestry Plan discussion

Ms. Hamerlynck reported that she had found preparation documents for a community forestry proposal that had been composed by former staff planner, Morgan Tracy. The members decided to review the material at their next meeting.

Eagle Scout Project

Ms. Hamerlynck reported that she and the Eagle Scout candidate had reviewed the Bryant Woods site and determined that a boardwalk might not be appropriate there and an interpretive sign was already in place. She recalled that a maintenance worker had indicated that the park bench there had been stolen. She noted that replacement of the bench could be a scout project. She also suggested to the Board that a project to restore and protect Lamont Springs might be accomplished as a scout project, because the area was badly trampled and eroding around the springs and there was no interpretive sign for the springs. She suggested the scout could construct a small cedar fence around the springs, pull ivy and replant vegetation and create a sign that explained the springs, indicated that the area was being restored and requested that visitors remain at least 15 feet from the springs. The Board directed the staff to make those suggestions to the scout and invite him to present a proposal. Staff was to caution the scout about the danger that the area of the springs seemed prone to be vandalized.

Earth Day Debriefing

The Members recalled that they had received many interesting questions at their Earth Day booth and most had been questions about recreation possibilities.

Spraying Near Wetland Areas

Ms. Roth recalled seeing someone spraying herbicide near wetlands. The Board discussed ways to make people aware of how spraying sensitive areas impacted water

quality in the City. Suggestions were made to compose and place an educational piece in *Hello LO!* and to mail the piece to landscape contractors.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Moe adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Hamerlynck
Natural Resource Coordinator

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