



CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

February 26, 2005

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Christine Roth called the February 26, 2005 meeting of the Natural Resources Advisory Board meeting to order at 5:57 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Main Fire Station, 300 B Avenue, Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Members present were Vice Chair Christine Roth, Russell Jones and Nancy Gronowski. Chair Jonathan Snell, Sarah Asby, Kelly Calabria, Ellen Adams, and Shirley Shangquan (student representative) were absent.

Sherrie Smith, AmeriCorps, attended the meeting. Staff present were Chris Jordan, Assistant City Manager; and Lisa Hamerlynck, Natural Resources Coordinator.

II. MINUTES

The vote on the *Minutes of January 26, 2005* was **postponed** for lack of a quorum.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Work Plan

Ms. Hamerlynck distributed copies of a draft work plan for the group to examine and discuss at the next meeting.

IV. REGULAR BUSINESS

AmeriCorp Member

The Board welcomed **Sherrie Smith**, the new AmeriCorp representative and Natural Area Volunteer Coordinator.

CIP Presentation

Chris Jordan, Assistant City Manager, presented the draft 2004-2009 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). He reported that most of the funds approved by voters for the 1998 Open Space Acquisition program had been spent, but there were still funds available from the 2002 Open Space Acquisition bond measure. He related that the City was about to sell the first \$3 million of a total of up to \$8 million of surface water management revenue bonds. He advised those bonds were to be secured by surface

water management utility fees. He pointed out the CIP also listed unfunded projects, including a new community center, a branch library, Lake Grove and Foothills District redevelopment, and possible future decommissioning of the Tryon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Jordan explained that if Measure 37 claims accelerated Stafford development, that area would need infrastructure and services, including at least one fire station. He pointed out CIP categories and projects that might be of the most interest to the NRAB, including projects in the Parks & Recreation category, the Surface Water Master Plan, and the Greenstreets Initiative. He reported that staff was drafting development standards for streetscapes, and the Engineering Department had adopted a new standard for streets. He said the City was looking for potential locations for Greenstreet demonstration projects. They were considering a portion of 10th Street, Ladd Street (partially funded by the George Rogers Park improvement project), and a segment of Bryant Road. During the questioning period, he clarified that the project for a pedestrian/bike bridge over the Canal to Bryant Woods was as yet unfunded, because available funds were needed at George Rogers Park. However, he said some funds for the bridge project might be available in 2007-2009, if the City prioritized the project.

Ms. Hamerlynck asked if the City could include a restoration component in a future open space acquisition bond measure. She explained that the NRAB understood that many small projects to remove invasive species from natural areas would not qualify for bond funding as “capital improvement” projects. Mr. Jordan advised the group that the City categorized projects that cost over \$10,000 as capital improvement projects, even though the cost of a typical project in the CIP was much higher than that. He anticipated it would be possible to use Open Space Acquisition bond measure funding to restore stream corridors in natural areas. He predicted that the City would become increasingly focused on storm water management projects that directly affected the water quality of the canals and the lake. He predicted that all of the projects related to the surface water master plan would be funded with money from the revenue bonds, and he anticipated that the new street standards would generate incremental improvements in the City over time. He invited the NRAB to comment on the draft CIP during the next few days, before he presented his report to the City Council.

Rossman Tipping Fees

Mr. Jordan reported that the City was raising the 3% franchise fee paid by Rossman Sanitary to 5%, which would generate \$80,000 – \$100,000 more City revenue per year. He advised that the City Council was inclined to use the additional money to fund a new staff position to help manage and maintain Open Space parcels and coordinate volunteer projects and community service workers. He clarified for the Board that the job description had not yet been written, that the additional staffing cost might be \$60,000-70,000 per year, and that the City might also need to purchase a vehicle for the new staff person to use. He agreed with them that the position should be made responsible for meeting quantifiable goals and the staff person’s work product should be evaluated.

Golf Course

The members asked Mr. Jordan if the Golf Course would still be there in five years. He reported that the City Council planned to consider what to do with the facility at a future meeting. He reported that use of the 39-acre Golf Course (and its most lucrative component, the driving range) had dramatically declined since 2000; it needed a new driving range and other improvements; and it was no longer producing enough revenue. He said the Council planned to consider a consultant's report and the responses to a question on the Community Survey that asked if citizens wanted to use property taxes to fund the Golf Course. He related that the consultant had found the economy and competition from another golf course impacted the City's golf course, and that a more aggressive marketing program would not significantly improve patronage.

Mr. Jordan left the meeting. Vice Chair Roth and Ms. Gronowski agreed that the City should budget money for the open space maintenance position and that the public needed to see that the City's open space parcels were taken care of. Ms. Hamerlynck advised that the City's budgeting process would begin in March, and that the new City Council liaison to the NRAB was Councilor Frank Groznik. She observed the Board could not take an official position regarding the CIP at the meeting because there was not a quorum.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Vice Chair Roth adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Hamerlynck

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Natural Resources Coordinator