



City of Lake Oswego Natural Resources Advisory Board Minutes

November 15, 2006

APPROVED

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Co-Chair Craig Diamond called the Natural Resources Advisory Board meeting of November 15, 2006 to order at 6:34 p.m. in the City Council Work Room of City Hall, 380 "A" Avenue, Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Members present besides Co-Chair Craig Diamond were Co-Chair William Gaar, Morgan Holen, Nancy Gronowski, Douglas Rich and Greg Wells (student representative). Sarah Asby and Stephanie Wagner were not present. Staff Liaison was Jonna Papaefthimiou, Natural Resources Planner.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of August 16, 2006 were approved by unanimous consent after they were corrected to identify speakers and to specify that to have a goal for the City to reduce water consumption by 20% by 2030 had only been presented as an example, and not suggested as a specific goal.

III. REGULAR BUSINESS

City Budget Process Overview

Doug Schmitz, City Manager, explained the City used a biennial (two-year) budget that included 22 different funds. The five primary funds (General Fund, Public Safety Fund, Parks & Recreation Fund, Adult Community Center Fund, and Library Fund) were funded by property taxes, and the other funds were funded by other sources such as utilities fees. He said the overall budget for the biennium was approximately \$170 million. He explained that a 14-member Citizens Budget Committee recommended three budgets to the City Council by mid-May: the City Budget; the Redevelopment Agency Budget; and Issues and Options for the Council to consider. Mr. Schmitz suggested that if the Natural Resources Advisory Board (NRAB) wanted a budget item to be considered by the Committee they should propose it in writing when they presented their goals and program efforts to the Council on December 12, 2006. During the questioning period, he confirmed the Board could present a general request for a budget item and follow up later with a supplemental document that asked for specific amounts. Board members asked how much discretionary funding might be available for new projects. Mr. Schmitz reported the City was currently anticipating a \$1.5 million shortfall due to increased PERS and insurance rates, union labor contracts and maintenance of recently acquired City property. He said there was about \$300,000 per year that might be used for new projects, but it might also be applied to the budget shortfall. He clarified that the City

Council determined which projects would be funded by the Capital Improvement Projects fund. *Mr. Schmitz then left the meeting.

Lake Oswego Sustainability Strategy

Duke Castle and Dorothy Atwood joined the meeting. They presented a slide show that highlighted The Natural Step, a process that has been used in other organizations to plan sustainability efforts. They advised that The Natural Step is used in the US and also internationally and is promoted by a not-for-profit organization called The Natural Step Network.

Mr. Castle and Ms. Atwood's presentation also highlighted other communities with emerging successful sustainability programs. The board entertained a wide-ranging discussion of sustainability efforts that the City of Lake Oswego might undertake. They also discussed the desirability of having a separate sustainability board as opposed to undertaking sustainability as an effort of the NRAB. They also discussed the need to promote sustainability not only in City operations, but as a goal for all community residents.

The NRAB concluded their discussion with an agreement to highlight sustainability as a goal for 2007. They agreed to discuss further the specifics of this goal before their December Council presentation.

City Budget Process – NRAB Recommendations

The group agreed that their budget recommendations would follow from their 2007 annual goals, and that they would revisit this discussion in the new year, and they would request additional information from staff regarding specific budgetary needs.

Discussion of 2007 goals & 2006 accomplishments

The group agreed by unanimous consent that their top goals for 2007 would be community forestry, sustainability, clean streams, and natural area parks maintenance and planning. They agreed to prioritize these goals at their next meeting.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Co-Chair Diamond adjourned the meeting at 8:43 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonna Papaefthimiou
Natural Resources Planner