



City of Lake Oswego Natural Resources Advisory Board Minutes

February 21, 2007

APPROVED

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Co-Chair William Gaar called the Natural Resources Advisory Board meeting of February 21, 2007 to order at approximately 6:34 p.m. in the West End Building, 4010 Kruse Way, Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Members present besides Co-Chair Gaar were Sarah Asby, Morgan Holen, Nancy Gronowski, Douglas Rich and Stephanie Wagner. Co-Chair Craig Diamond was excused, and the student position was vacant. Staff Liaison was Jonna Papaefthimiou, Natural Resources Planner.

Lisa Volpel and Marty Sharp attended as guests.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The draft Minutes of November 30, 2006 were corrected and **approved** by unanimous vote of those members present.

III. REGULAR BUSINESS

Council Priorities Discussion

Natural Resources Advisory Board (NRAB) members examined “Lake Oswego City Council Goals, 2007.” They noted one Council goal related to the Lake Interceptor, which the NRAB was also focused on. The Board considered establishing a subcommittee to draft comments on the Lake Grove Village Center Plan, but no one volunteered to do that so the members agreed to just stay informed about its progress. Ms. Asby agreed to keep the Board informed about the City’s progress meeting goals related to the City’s drinking water supply. Co-chair Gaar said he and Co-chair Diamond would keep the Board informed about the City’s progress meeting Sustainability goals. Co-chair Gaar said he would also keep the board informed about the City’s progress on the Clean Streams Plan. He served on the technical advisory group for that program and he advised they had listed goals and published them on the City website. Ms. Wagner offered to draft an NRAB educational document related to how citizens could help address community stormwater management issues. Ms. Holen and Ms. Gronowski were to follow the City’s progress toward the Urban Forestry Goal. Ms. Papaefthimiou agreed to keep the Board informed regarding the City’s Wastewater Treatment Plant trail and landscaping improvements.

Lake Interceptor Discussion

Mr. Rich volunteered to track the City’s progress on the Lake Interceptor project and keep the Board updated.

Update on Sustainability

The Board recalled the Community Center architect's presentation they had heard at their previous meeting. They recalled hearing that the steering committee planned to make the project as "green" as they could, but that it might cost too much money to apply for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. Ms. Papaefthimiou related that the steering committee had invited NRAB members to advise and collaborate with them and attend the public open house to speak up for the sustainability aspect of the project. NRAB members recalled they had agreed to attend the open house and then discuss whether to take any action before the steering committee finalized its recommendation. Board members stressed that the steering committee should know that even if the initial cost were higher, sustainable systems would have long run benefits. They recalled the architect had told them that the old, existing systems would remain if an evaluation showed they still worked.

The Board discussed how to implement the Sustainability Goal they had adopted. They recalled they had agreed to promote a new Sustainability Advisory Board and the City Councilors had asked them to suggest how it would work. They noted the NRAB already had a lot of other work to do on targeted natural resources issues, and they wondered if Co-chair Diamond would work with staff and draft something for the NRAB to consider recommending to the Council. Co-chair Gaar offered to relay that to Co-chair Diamond, who was not present. The NRAB wondered if it would be more effective for the City Council to create a formal board to advise the Council, or if a less constrained, non-governmental citizens' group reaching out to the community should advocate sustainability. Board members recalled they had agreed to help in the transition to a new Sustainability Board. Co-chair Gaar observed a consensus to wait until the next meeting to discuss a suggestion by Co-chair Diamond to ask the City Council to charge the board with recommending how the City could implement carbon reduction standards to address climate control.

Update on Community Forestry

Ms. Holen reported that the City's AmeriCorps volunteer now planned to focus her time on developing background information and a concept plan for a Community Forestry Program, rather than start a tree inventory. The concept plan would define the purpose, vision and goals of the program. She advised the process of fashioning a draft plan would include establishing goals; holding a public brainstorming session; and presenting the draft plan. She reported that former NRAB member, Chris Roth, might provide background information and the AmeriCorps volunteer planned to present the draft plan to the NRAB for their comments before she presented it to the City Council. Several members agreed that it was more important to focus on developing a policy and a plan than to inventory trees.

Ms. Papaefthimiou advised that all schoolyards in the City were maintained by Parks Department staff. The members wanted to know more about how much land the City owned or maintained. They suggested the AmeriCorps volunteer also work with neighborhood associations and Friends of Bryant Woods and Springbrook Parks. Ms. Papaefthimiou confirmed the AmeriCorps worker was working with the staff

neighborhood planner, and she had contacted all active neighborhood associations to arrange to talk to them about the prospective program and identify neighborhood contacts as part of her outreach strategy. Board members suggested NRAB members would be good facilitators at public work sessions. Ms. Holen agreed to find out what the anticipated timeline was for the process.

Finalize 2007 Meeting Schedule/Location

Board members discussed their meeting schedule and location. They indicated they found the Council Work Room to be too small. **Co-chair Gaar observed a consensus to continue to meet for the rest of the year between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the West End Building**. He anticipated the Board might decide not to hold an August meeting if they found there would not be a quorum for that meeting.

Public Participation in NRAB Meetings

NRAB members discussed how to allow guests to participate in meetings in a manner that would still allow board members to complete their regular business. Co-chair Gaar saw the problem as “spontaneous” participation, and he suggested scheduling a time during each meeting for public comment. He anticipated the Co-chairs would still have discretionary control over allowing public participation in NRAB discussions at other times during the meeting. Board members indicated they wanted to encourage guests to submit written comments prior to speaking at a NRAB meeting, whenever possible. **Co-chair Gaar moved to add an agenda item before regular business items that provided five minutes for public comment**. Ms. Wagner seconded the motion and it was **passed** by unanimous vote of those members present.

Student Recruitment Update

Ms. Holen reported that NRAB information and an application for student membership on the Board had been sent to the three high schools. She said that the deadline for applications had passed, but she did not yet know how many applications had been submitted.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 21, 2007. There being no further business Co-Chair Gaar adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonna Papaefthimiou
Natural Resources Planner