



CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO Natural Resources Advisory Board Minutes

July 20, 2011

Note: No audio recording available.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Doug Rich called the Natural Resources Advisory Board (NRAB) meeting of July 20, 2011 to order at 6:07 p.m. in the Yamhill Room of the West End Building, 4101 Kruse Way, Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Members present: Chair Doug Rich, Vice Chair Denise Dailey, Benjamin Clark, Craig Stephens, Stephanie Wagner, and Kara Warner
Members excused: Stephani Wax (Youth Member)
Guest(s) present: Councilor Mary Olson
Council Liaison: Bill Tierney
Staff: Jordan Wheeler, Staff Liaison/Management Analyst; Ryan Stee, Parks Project Manager

ANNOUNCEMENTS (None)

PUBLIC COMMENT (None)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Deferred)

REVIEW OF COUNCIL ROLLING AGENDA

The Board reviewed and examined the Council schedule. The City Council will not be meeting during the month of August.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Update: Luscher Area Master Plan

Ryan Stee reviewed the Luscher Area Master Plan project including the background and history of the area, the specific properties and restrictions, and the public process. Stee provided an overview of the refined draft site plan, the changes from the previous alternative site plans, features of the site plan, and public comments received.

The Board discussed the different features of the site plan and the core area site plan. Members inquired about the event space and its proximity to the wetlands and mitigation and attributes of the internal road through the core area of the site plan.

The slope and condition of the Firlane property was discussed. Board members expressed concern over and questioned whether the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program would be put at risk by relocating it to the Firlane property.

The members discussed a letter from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) that addressed agricultural use on Firlane property. Ryan Stee explained that staff needs to finish its research on the site and gather more data about the Firlane property, soil quality, and suitability for agriculture activities.

Craig Stephens inquired about the distinction between parks, natural areas, and open space. Members discussed open space and natural areas and their definitions according to the Comprehensive Plan. It was explained that one of the distinctions is that open space land, such as Stevens Meadow, carry strict protections due to the purpose of the Bonds and the deeds. It was agreed that updating the definitions should be considered during the update process for the Parks 2025 Plan and Comprehensive Plan.

The Board requested clarity on where the Luscher Area Master Plan (LAMP) fits into the Parks 2025 Plan and where they both fit into the Comprehensive Plan.

The urban growth boundary issue and the tension between developing the Farm and NRAB's charge to protect natural resources was discussed.

The Board considered how NRAB should make a recommendation and offer input on the proposed site plan, specifically the natural resources in the LAMP draft narrative.

Board members offered the following input:

- The proposed viewing blind is unnecessary.
- More information should be provided about the proposed tennis center site development on the Rassekh property, specifically how utilities such as water and wastewater and surface water will be provided.
- More information and preliminary studies should be conducted on the impact of the development on the drainage and storm management for the area. Any proposed site plan should be reviewed with the impacts in mind, especially the hard surfaces and their resulting impacts on drainage and natural areas. This can include parking areas and their materials, swales, and other permeable services at the site.
- The Board agreed that addressing storm water management and how it will be managed on the entire site is essential information. Any proposed developments on the site should be "low impact" developments on the natural systems.
- Another area of concern expressed by Board members is that the relocation alternative for the CSA is not adequate and that the ball fields in the site plan should be moved. The CSA should be maintained at its current site as the best and highest value.
- NRAB members questioned whether there was a need for a ropes course.

Councilor Olson brought up the extension of the Rosemont Trail and where the project will be constructed and implemented on the Brock property. Councilor Olson also suggested that NRAB review the proposed Community Development Code housekeeping changes, specifically the definitions.

Luscher Area Master Plan Discussion

Board member Benjamin Clark discussed Goal 5 of the State Land Use Goals and Guidelines and the City's Comprehensive Plan that provides guidance for how the City addresses the management of natural resources. The Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) provides oversight of the Statewide Planning Goals and approves of local Comprehensive Plans. Clark also addressed Goal 14 which provides direction on urbanization and the urban growth boundary. Goal 14 addressed the preservation and maximizing the use of farmland which is similar to the concerns that NRAB has expressed in regards to the Luscher Area Master Plan and the overall loss of natural and open spaces.

The Board will provide a formal response on the Luscher Area Master Plan by the end of August. Ryan Stee stated that the results of the online survey will be provided by Friday, July 22.

The Board discussed how NRAB's concerns and interest in concepts overlap with the Sustainability Advisory Board. The Board agreed to hold a joint meeting with the Sustainability Advisory Board to discuss these overlapping issues.

Iron Mountain Management Plan

Stee requested support letters from NRAB for a grant application to fund technical assistance for the natural area management plan for the Iron Mountain Park. The Board agreed to sign the letter.

Update: Comprehensive Plan Update

Bill Gaar, NRAB liaison to the Comprehensive Plan Citizen Advisory Committee provided an update on the Comprehensive Plan update. Gaar expressed that he was interested in receiving feedback on how he can serve NRAB as liaison to the process. He advised that it may also be beneficial for NRAB to invite Sid Sin or someone else from the CAC to give a presentation on the Comprehensive Plan.

Garr stated that the City Council supported the preferred scenario at their meeting on July 19 (last night). Gaar explained that the scenarios give guidance on addressing the questions of what do we want the City to look like in 20 years and how and what do we do to get there? Originally there were 5 scenarios that were reduced to 3: LOconomy, Current Comprehensive Plan, and Village Center concepts.

The CAC approved of a hybrid concept with elements of the Village Center and pieces of the LOconomy concept. The Hybrid Scenario includes the concept of 20 minute neighborhoods

which features walkable neighborhoods with amenities within a 20 minute walk. The Hybrid Scenario also includes the LOconomy feature of an economy and tax base driven by commercial properties with low service demand and mixed use/higher development in certain areas.

Board members inquired whether the Natural Step framework or sustainability filter was being utilized during the process. Staff will provide more information about the specifics on how the filter is being used.

Information about the Scenario, vision, and status of the update process will be provided to NRAB members through email.

Chair Rich moved to confirm Bill Gaar as NRAB official liaison to the Comp Plan CAC. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Liaison Gaar will provide monthly emails and attend NRAB meetings every other month to give an update on the Comp Plan.

Iron Mountain Staging Area Restoration Recommendation

The latest version of NRAB's recommendation for the restoration and enhancement of the Iron Mountain Staging Area was discussed.

Chair Rich moved to approve the NRAB memo dated June 15 that address the restoration and enhancement of the Iron Mountain Staging Area. The motion was seconded and approved.

The letter will be sent to Council through the Council Digest.

Councilor Tierney informed the Board that the Hunt Club has approached the City about the potential future of the property and staff is reviewing options in their discussions. The proposal could have repercussions for natural resources.

Foothills Update

The Foothills Framework Planning process was discussed, and in particular, the Board's feedback on the previous month's presentation and opportunities for additional feedback from the Board. The Planning Principles for the plan were discussed. Board members mentioned the removal of the LEED standard from the district development as a concern.

The Board discussed the possibility to assign liaisons to projects such as Foothills in order to stay up-to-date and better informed on the issues. The Board considered the role of NRAB especially the roles of advisory, advocacy, and informing/educating the public.

Co-Chair Rich and staff will review NRAB's comments from the June meeting and draft a memo expressing their questions and input.

Streetcar Project Update

A brief update on the status and timeline of the project was provided.

The Board expressed the desire to bring in 3rd parties to learn why they should be concerned or not about certain things in the project. Ongoing research and review of information as it develops will be important for NRAB to stay up to date and informed on the project.

The example of the Autobahn Society was given. Board members requested that the Autobahn Society be invited to a future meeting to hear their concerns and issues on the Streetcar project.

Kara Warner volunteered to review the Autobahn Society's letter and start discussions to see if Autobahn Society needs to attend a future NRAB meeting.

Election of Officers

Chair Rich volunteered to serve as a Co-Chair until his term expired next year. Vice Chair Dailey offered to serve as the other Co-Chair. Rich volunteered to Co-Chair

Motion to appoint Doug Rich and Denise Dailey as Co-Chairs was seconded and approved unanimously.

The Board was informed that Martha Sharpe resigned. The recruitment process has been initiated. Additionally, the recruitment of a new student member is ongoing.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 17, 2011. There being no further business Chair Rich adjourned the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Wheeler
Staff Liaison

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