

Sandy River Basin Watershed Council

Working together to restore the Sandy River

26000 SE Stark, GE Building, Gresham, OR 97030



APPROVED Minutes of the September 25th, 2017 Council Meeting at the Sandy Watershed Learning Center

Present:

Steve Wise
Sara Ennis
Bill Weiler
Gerald Murphy
Carl Exner

Alan L'Hommedieu
Angie Kimpo
Diana Pope
Roy Iwai
Aaron Lee

Carl Exner called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm. After introductions, the minutes from the May meeting were reviewed. Approval was moved by Gerald Murphy and seconded by Diana Pope. Minutes were approved.

Remembering Jill (moment of silence)

A memorial service for Jill will be on October 14th, at 2pm at the Multnomah Athletic Club. Jill was a watershed scientist and was on the Council for 7-10 years. Jill was very passionate about the river and will be greatly missed.

Introduction of our New AmeriCorps member

Melissa is here from the Midwest, has a background in marketing, paddling, nature outreach and will be focusing on outreach in Beaver Creek.

Finances and Budget

- 2017 YTD Date Funding:
 - Income YTD: \$500,780
 - Direct Public Support 55%
 - Government Grants 41%
 - Private Funding 4%
 - Expenses YTD: \$404,868.62
 - Staff 48%
 - Program/Project Expenses 48%
 - Administrative 4%

Treasurer Succession and Recruitment

We have a Portland Water Bureau candidate, has been a treasurer for other NGO's, including Cascadia Wild and Trout Unlimited. Carl interviewed her and she seems like a good candidate. She lives in Gresham. She was unable to attend tonight. Jill Josselyn's position is also open, as well as ongoing vacancies in agriculture, forestry, and recreation. Board elections will be postponed until November meeting, which has been rescheduled from November 27th to Monday November 13th due to conflicts with the Thanksgiving holiday.

Funder Updates

OWEB: November applications to submit: Kelly Dam Technical Assistance, Outreach 3rd try

New Funders

- State of Sandy –Clackamas SWCD, PGE
- Sandyversary –PGE, Port of Portland, Metro

Retrofit

Gresham confirmed \$300,000 investment, which with EMSWCD funds will match Metro grant. More detailed engineering plans anticipate higher costs than originally calculated, so additional funds will be needed, if projects are to achieve volume reduction. Limited permeability in some project areas would require additional measures to infiltrate.

Pending:

- 2 Meyer Memorial Trust Grants:
 - Council capacity enhancement
 - National Forest Foundation in partnership with groups serving diverse communities working on National Forest land. October decisions
- Resources Legacy Fund – Design funding for Kelly Creek Dam removal, considering ecological, economic and social feasibility of dam removal. OWEB TA funds would complete engineering and address stakeholder needs, especially youth and accessible angling currently provided by the pond.
- Cabela's –Conservation Oriented Recreation Guide

Risk Management Review

Child Abuse Prevention Policy:

Council has evolved from having an “Education Initiative” to reaching over 1,000 students a year. The Council needs to address educator responsibilities. Policy template document has been shared with the board to review and adopt. There will be a presentation from our insurance company in a future meeting.

Safety Plan for Education Program

Council will adopt new policy to have all volunteers and staff interacting with youth complete a background check. School parent volunteers are vetted by their school. Staff should be epi-pen trained and carry epi pens. These are very expensive and expire annually. Staff will pursue current CPR First Aid training.

Updated insurance requirements -OWEB

The Council needs to carry general liability, directors and officers coverage, coverage for work related accidents for staff, accident coverage for volunteers and secondary insurance to cover staff driving on work related errands. Premiums cost more for this level of coverage and increase annually, but it behooves the organization to carry this level of coverage as the Council grows. Current council coverage exceeds OWEB standards.

Learning Moment: Get to know the board

Katherine will be in touch with board members to learn more about interests.

Annual Meeting:

Board Elections and review and adoption of bylaws will be considered at the November meeting.

Council Project Updates

MHCC Retrofit: Design and Outreach updates

Infiltration: The top 8' of parking lot A has poor permeability, plus there are risks to slope stability if stormwater were allowed to infiltrate. Design revision and cost estimate adjustments are in progress. Anticipated results will reduce pollutant load by 80-100%, however additional funding is needed to achieve volume reduction through the construction of drywells.

- The Mayor of Gresham described this “this is a powerful partnership,” providing strong support for the project.
- Charles George, MHCC Facilities Director and primary project contact is leaving as of October 2nd.
- Murdoch and Spirit Mountain have capital funding, DEQ may also have additional funding available
- Reached out to faculty at end of spring term, presented to three different faculty groups during MHCC fall faculty in-service, tabled during MHCC student Welcome Day, Coordinating with GEO 106 and Integrated media program. Student work party October 12th.

Recreation Guide/Council Website

The cornerstone of the new recreation guide will be an interactive web-based map produced by partner/funders at Mt. Hood Territories, which needs to be “i-framed” in to the Council Website. The Council website, does not have the capacity to do this, triggering a much needed redesign. A design team is working on a new look, which will be available for review in the coming months. This discussion has also triggered the development of a logo and the discussion of dropping “Basin” from the Council’s name. Carl suggested three words is optimal –Diana suggested: “Sandy Watershed Council.” A Cleanup participant suggested “Sandy River Council”

Timberline to Troutdale Success

The Timberline Cleanup, conducted in partnership with Project Snowrider, and Portland Mountain Rescue on September 16th hosted 93 participants, 2,500 lb of trash were collected, including a door, signs, pipe, etc.

The Float was nearly canceled due to Dabney park closure related to the Eagle Creek fires, however on Thursday OSP granted permission for the flotilla to put in at Dabney. 50 volunteers floated and collected 1200 lb of trash including an abandoned broken canoe, change machine, car door, and gallon of 16 year old milk.

Weed Smackdown Review

All major sites along the Salmon River treated: Resort at the Mountain Golf Course completely treated for first time in project’s history, Camp Arrah Wanna, Wildwood, and BLM sites downriver of wildwood. Holdout patches remain at the Arrah Wanna HOA side channel and newly discovered sites at the Mt. Hood RV Park and stems remain at Miller’s Quarry.

Delta Wildlife Conservation Society visit

The WCS Committee meeting was held in Portland in August and used Sandy River Delta as a context for the grant making committee. The site demonstrated climate extremities in five month contrast from ice to drought. There were lots of good connections and relationship building. Members were from all over the country representing many groups including funders.

Chapter 2 of video series in process, Tom Kaye from Institute of Applied Ecology was taped. Reintroductions of rare and endangered plants scheduled for next year: Golden paintbrush, Nelson's checker mallow, Kincaid's Lupine, and possibly milkweed.

Sandyversary

Event is Thursday October 16th 2017 at 6:00-9:00 at the Riverview Restaurant in Troutdale. Attendees encouraged to recruit people to attend and seek items for auction.

Announcements are going out through Intertwine, Mt. Times, Facebook, need to approach Sandy Post, Oregonian, Gresham Outlook, and invite SRBP.

State of the Sandy

Coho, Spring Chinook, Steelhead, ten year averages are dramatically increased. We can't claim causation with restoration, though data show that main difference between Sandy and other streams with lower recovery is: dam removal and prioritized restoration. "Too soon to declare victory, but we can claim significant progress."

Emerging Opportunities

Stark Street Culvert

Project was on schedule until big rain, diversion pipe was overwhelmed, and water ran through culvert and caused erosion. The project is now under control after rain. Water is now flowing through the channel. ODFW was out and fish are free to run. Opening ceremony planned. Project cost ~\$2 million. Cochran Road project slated for 2019. City of Gresham repairs on Kane St. culvert slated for 2018.

Hack-a-thon Intel Laboratories and Portland Northwest College of Art are collaborating on a hack-a-thon in their Make+Code Laboratory the weekend of July 14-16 to work on technology to collect and analyze eco-blitz data and potential migratory bird recordings for population surveys. Intel sponsored an on-line Earth Day contest to seek ideas. The next session was held Sunday 9/24.

Upcoming Events

Next meeting rescheduled for Monday November 13th (instead of November 29th after Thanksgiving). This will serve as the Council's Annual meeting, and our Holiday event.

Other events: (see council website calendar and handout –events every Saturday through 11/11, some midweek events too)
Sandyversary October 19, 2017