

Sandy River Basin Watershed Council

Working together to restore the Sandy River

26000 SE Stark, GE Building, Gresham, OR 97030



DRAFT Minutes of the November 28, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting at the Sandy River Learning Center

Present:

Steve Wise
Sara Ennis
Bill Weiler
Katherine Cory
Gerald Murphy
Dianna Pope
Jay Wilson
Julie DeLione

Terry Black
Cindy Kolomechuk
Alan L'hommedieu
Steve Rayne
Greg Wanner
Roy Iwai
Todd Alsbury
Maria Lisa Johnson
Mike Sherrill

Cindy Kolomechuk called the meeting to order at 6:41pm.
After introductions, the minutes from the September meeting were reviewed. Approval was moved by Diana Pope, seconded by Alan L'hommedieu. Minutes approved.

Finances and Budget

- Projected Year End Income: \$873,103.07
- Projected Year End Expenses: \$823,000.00
- 2017 Projected Income \$847,649.00
 - We currently have \$493,079.00 in hand.
 - We are awaiting notification on grant applications totaling \$354,570.00, and are continuing to seek additional funding for open projects.
- 2017 Projected Expenses \$817,465.19 (including personnel, project and administrative costs).

Overall our finances are in good standing. We are anticipating closing the year with positive net income.

MHCC Retrofit Funder Updates

The Metro grant review committee has recommended approval of the full amount of the grant, which will go to Council on December 8th.

Delta Funding

The Wildlife Conservation Society Climate Adaptation fund has awarded the Council a large grant to implement climate adaptation strategies at the Delta. SRBWC will host a climate workshop tentatively on February 27th and will be looking at planting strategies that include drought and wet tolerant species, like sugar pine, Pacific madrone, and western red cedar.

SRBWC Committees and Board Engagement

The board proposed formalizing and determining the membership of the following committees: Events, Equity, and Restoration/Bid. Additional committees might include a Fundraising and an Administrative committee. These committees would meet on the 4th

Monday during the even months (i.e. February, April, etc.). The Executive Committee will send out a skills and interest survey prior to the January 2017 board meeting, when committee membership will be finalized. Cindy encouraged members to support the Council through donation of their time, funding, or via a wish list of items to be provided by the council (see attached).

Sandy Spring Chinook Broodstock and Stray Control Program

By Presentation by Todd Alsbury ODFW –see accompanying slides

The stray control program was successful in reducing stray rate to less than 10% this year. Total wild spawning Chinook was greater than 1400 at the weirs, actually totals will be 200-300 higher. Weirs to capture strays were intended to be in place until October 1st but were pulled 9/22/16 due to a storm. The Bull Run weir was overwhelmed. As a result, approximately 100 hatchery spring Chinook made it upstream into the Bull Run, where spawning habitat is not considered adequate, and into the Little Sandy where spawning of hatchery strays is likely to result in limited natural production. The Bull Run weir is particularly difficult to operate due in part to Bull Run dam operations and other natural factors making flows unpredictable. Changing location may improve operations for the next (and possibly final) season. The program is at ~5% now, exceeding the goals of reducing the stray rate of 10% or less.

ODFW has gained permission from National Marine Fisheries Service to collect milt from up to 22 wild adult males for the hatchery program as they move them out of the traps. This reduces fish handling, transporting, and risk of harm. 132,000 hatchery spring Chinook are released each year. Once all age classes (i.e. 3, 4, 5, and 6 year olds) of fish are returning from acclimated releases in the Bull Run River, ODFW expects ~1,000 hatchery adults to return to the lower Sandy and Bull Run. Last year, ODFW only had 3 and 4 year old returns which would typically be ~400 adult hatchery fish but only ~200 returned to the Bull Run. This is likely due to poor ocean survival experienced by most Columbia River spring Chinook populations. After Marmot Dam removal, stray led to a large proportion of the hatchery return to spawn in the primary spawning habitat of the Upper Sandy basin. Once weirs were in place some of these hatchery fish would spawn immediately below the weirs as it is suitable spawning habitat. Now that stray is reduced to less than 10%, ODFW still sees fish spawning in the vicinity of the weirs but they are primarily wild fish. The weirs typically do not negatively affect wild fish passage and spawning timing based on over 12 years of ODFW spawning survey data for the basin

Wild steelhead have recolonized the Little Sandy River since removal of the Marmot Dam. In recent years Winter Steelhead in the Sandy have out performed those in the Clackamas River and the rest of the Columbia/Willamette basin.

Todd also shared that commercial fishing has been moved up river in the Columbia in to zones 4 and 5, (5 includes the Sandy). Though the mouth of the Sandy is a sanctuary area, downstream is open, which could negatively affect salmon recovery goals unless a robust monitoring effort is in place to ensure that exploitation of Sandy specific stocks does not exceed the productivity of the population.

Diversity/Equity and... Presentation

By Maria Lisa Johnson of the Non-Profit Association of Oregon

<http://diversitycollegium.org/usertools/GDIB-V-03072016-3-2MB.pdf>

Maria Lisa presented the Global Diversity and Inclusion Benchmarks as an organizational assessment tool to identify current organizational performance in regards to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and provide a progression of strategies for improvement. Compared to the Coalition for Communities of Color Assessment, the GDIB are used globally, are easy to apply to organizations of all sizes, are less data focused and the assessments are easier to complete, and inclusive of a broader scope of diversity. Maria Lisa suggests we complete the assessment as a group rather than individually and potentially focus on the foundational stages of developing vision, leadership and structure. Steve is proposing a Council equity retreat in February to complete the assessment and develop next steps. The assessment will also meet a biennial requirement for Council support funding from OWEB.

Council Project Updates

CLT: Trail cams are in place and aimed at the waterline. The side channel is connecting at moderate flows, access roads have been re-naturalized, and three fall plantings will be completed by December 6th. A spring planting is in the planning process to include the community in actively restoring the forest and understory.

Retrofit: Metro recommends full funding (12/8 expected Council approval), DEQ seed funding approved, Salmon Safe certification includes dam removal analysis in Y3 and the slope outside the SRBWC office has received preliminary Backyard habitat certification.

Delta Plantings: The November planting in partnership with Friends of Trees, hosted 183 volunteers from several groups (including college possible, Boy Scouts, local high schools, clubs, and a business group) who planted 1,200 plants.

Upcoming Delta dates:

February 4 th	Community planting
March 22 nd	Student planting
April 7 th	3'sForTrees/Daimler
April 22 nd	2 nd Annual EcoBlitz

USFS Delta channel closure proposal

The board approved the Council in writing a letter of support of the Forest Services motion to close the east channel to pedestrians and dogs to protect sensitive western painted turtle, otter, migrating birds and salmonids, and a newly established stand of culturally significant Wapato. The uncontrolled dog access has caused some funders to withdraw support. The Forest Service does not typically allow dogs off-leash on its lands, however the Delta has become an exception. Oregon Department of State Lands owns the piece of land along the east channel. The Council acknowledges this restriction will not be popular with dog owners and will participate in outreach and education efforts including signage and natural barrier methods, to improve patron understanding and cooperation.

Notes:

- SRBWC engaged over 1800 members of the community via education, volunteerism, or at outreach events in 2016 totaling 4080 hours of contact.
- SRBWC participated in a conversation about how to create an “Inclusive Columbia River Ecology” with local tribal members facilitated by the Confluence Project.

Upcoming Events

Next SRBWC **Board Meeting January 23**
Delta Community Planting – February 4

Oct. 19, 2017 Free Sandyversary / SRBWC 20th Anniversary
Self assessment / diversity/equity retreat Feb/March TBD
Climate Adaptation project workshop Late Feb. TBD