

Sandy River Basin Watershed Council

Working together to restore the Sandy River

26000 SE Stark, GE Building, Gresham, OR 97030



DRAFT Minutes of the April 24th, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting at the Sandy Watershed Learning Center

Present:

Steve Wise
Sara Ennis
Bill Weiler
Gerald Murphy
Steve Rayne
Carl Exner

Catherine Dillon USFS
Julie DiLeone
Terry Black
Alan L'Hommedieu
Matt DeAngelo
Jill Josselyn
Dave Stewart

Carl Exner called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm. After introductions, the minutes from the November meeting were reviewed. Approval was moved by Gerald Murphy and seconded by Alan L'hommedieu. Minutes were approved.

Finances and Budget

Q1 Income: \$362,666.

- 54.54% Direct public support
- 42.70% Government grants
- 02.76% Private funding

Q1 Expenses \$144,756

- 50.50% Project expenses
- 43.71% HR/Payroll
- 05.79\$ Admin

Some funders delivered significant project funds up front.

There are several underfunded projects we are seeking funding for. These include the Sandyversary Event in October, State of the Sandy research and publication, Recreation Guide, and Delta Education.

Funder Updates

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- OWEB: Sandy-Salmon design Technical Assistance + Outreach recommended for funding
- Delta: Port of Portland (water quality mitigation) \$90,000; Union Pacific education \$10,000
- EMSWCD partnership adjusted to \$90,000 out of \$100,000 requested, difference will come out of retrofit, where we already have existing high level match. Funding areas include: Retrofit, Beaver Creek, Delta zoning + Ecoblitz, State of Sandy, and Equity
- Recreation Guide: Awarded Clackamas County Community Partnership Program grant: \$4,000
- Policeman's Helmet Weed Smackdown: Oregon State Weed Board: \$16,000

Proposals Submitted:

- NOAA resiliency – Murph secured a letter from Rep. Blumenauer’s office support for this proposal to restore the Sandy-Salmon confluence floodplain;
- Spirit Mountain Letter of Intent for Delta Education (denied)
- Meyer Memorial Trust Letter of Intent: submitted for two proposals: – SRBWC capacity and SRBWC as a partner in National Forest Foundation proposal focused on Mt. Hood “cherished landscapes.” Partners in this proposal include: Vive, ANT farm, and NW Youth Corps with SRBWC as a facilitator and liaison for stewardship events on Forest Service land. MMT grants require board participation and equity assessment.
- Recreation Guide: Cabelas, ODFW R&E, Oregon Department of Parks and Rec Recreational Trails Program, Mazamas
- Anticipated approval of application for 2017-2018 AmeriCorps member

OWEB Biennial Self-Assessment:

Completing our organizational self-assessment by June 30 is required as a condition of OWEB council support funding. Within the draft self-assessment framework, OWEB recommends that we choose four areas in which we want to set goals to improve in the coming biennium. Council members highlighted a variety as possible priorities for the next biennium. Staffing levels, board engagement, and insurance/legal coverage were among suggested focus areas. As diversity, equity and inclusion goals and practices are not well-covered by the OWEB categories, the Council will suggest equity as one of the biennial focus areas.

SRBWC Committees and Board Engagement

The board proposed formalizing and determining the membership of the following committees:

- Restoration/Bid: Steve Wise, Murph, Alan, Carl
- Events: Katherine, Julie, Steve Rayne, Alan,
- Equity: Steve Wise, Sara, Roy, Murph

With the retrofit on the horizon, there will be an imminent need for the participation of the restoration bid committee.

Saturday July 29th: Annual picnic at the Marmot dam site. Please bring food and let us know if you can help solicit food donations.

10:30 arrival

11:00 site history and tour

12:30 lunch

1:30 additional activities may include removal of “Caution: Dam Ahead” signs

2:30 close

Friday May 5th and Friday May 12th:

Bid committee meets to review proposals and interview candidates for retrofit design.

Thursday October 19th: The SRBWC 20th Anniversary Celebration -evening

This date coincides with the ten-year free-sandy-versary or removal of the marmot dam.

This event will be closer to the Metro area and as envisioned this will be a party with music, drinks and appetizers (all of which we will be seeking donations for) and a brief presentation and slide show. The event committee will be focusing their efforts here.

Council Project Updates

Plantings and other events:

SRBWC facilitated 14 events this winter. Volunteers from an alternative spring break program in Utah helped plant at the Salmon-Sandy confluence, VetCorps planted the MHCC rain garden, Mazamas at Still Creek, Boy Scouts at Beaver Creek and total 1480 volunteers/participants turned so far this year, as compared to 703 by this time last year.

Delta

Delta: 2017 Habitat Restoration work at the Delta is covering 142 acres.

Our next Friends of Trees Community Day (November 4) may partner with dog owners. USFS has recommended introducing endangered plant species: Kincaid's Lupine, golden paintbrush, Nelson's checker mallow, as well as regionally native (but new to the Sandy River Delta) black cottonwood, Madrone, and lodgepole pine.

To date, more than 600 students have experienced the Delta in 2017.

Earth Day Delta Eco-Blitz Saturday 4/22 –110 volunteer participants including students from MHCC, Sandy High School, Oregon Blueprint Foundation, and Urban Nature Partners participated. 103 species were documented. The event was a great success despite the rain and competition for leaders and volunteers due to a myriad of other Earth Day activities. Donors: Joe's Donuts, SOLVE, Stumptown, Sugarcube Cupcakes
Our 3rd. Annual 2018 EcoBlitz is already planned for 5/12, International Migratory Bird Day.

Retrofit: MHCC board was very receptive and excited about the project. Council has initiated a bid process for design work; 8 firms came to site tour, four submitted proposals on 4/28, Construction will begin in 2018 with a Depave kick-off event. Outreach to MHCC faculty to incorporate retrofit into curriculum is underway. The Salmon Safe certification celebration is proposed for late summer/early fall.

Climate Adaptation Workshop: "Resiliency for the New Normal"

Monday 2/27 at MHCC

Sponsored by Wildlife Conservation Society Climate Adaptation Fund

This workshop brought speakers from the region to discuss how to adapt restoration strategies in the face of climate change, acknowledging that ecosystem resilience will occur in different future environment than historic conditions that have served as the reference for restoration actions. The event was well attended including Gresham High School and MHCC students.

Video footage available here: <http://sandyriver.org/sandy-climate-adaptation-workshop-summary/>

State of the Sandy Report: Sandy River Basin Partners met in January to discuss strategies for creating a ten year, post Marmot dam removal, update for the Sandy River. Portland Water Bureau, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Bureau of Land Management will compile data and draft sections pertaining to changes in fish activity and water quality since dam removal. SRBWC will tell the socio-economic side of the story including demographic changes in the watershed and volunteer stewardship.

State of Beaver Creek: Partners (SRBWC, City of Gresham, EMSWCD, and Multnomah County) are working on a four-page update to convey information about the good things about Beaver Creek, the challenges, projects underway and things individuals can do to help.

Sandy River Conservation Oriented Restoration Website:

SRBWC has received \$4,000 from the Clackamas Community Partnership Program. CPP has offered to host website and provide technical assistance for content SRBWC generates. SRBWC has submitted grants to Cabela's, ODFW R+E, Mazamas, and ODPR RTP.

Emerging Opportunities

Kelly Creek dam removal

Salmon Safe Certification process requires dam removal feasibility study in year three of five year certification process. A representative from a potential funder visited the site and has said the project may gain consideration based on its urban location, educational value and that it is connected to a restoration area. The Dam will need to be replaced with a bridge to connect the two halves of campus. Gordon Grant, a geomorphologist from OSU who worked on the removal of the Marmot dam, is willing to help with the feasibility study.

Hack-a-thon Intel Laboratories and Portland Northwest College of Art are collaborating on a hack-a-thon in their Make+Code Laboratory 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.

Partnerships with tribal and indigenous groups:

- Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde – SRBWC staff attended a dialog with the Grande Ronde tribal natural resources staff to consider collaboration on restoration, potentially including, traditional foods, lamprey or other areas
- Inclusive Columbia River Ecology – a pilot project facilitated by Confluence funded by Grey Family Foundation to better incorporate indigenous perspectives on restoration and education projects along the lower Columbia. Pilot test of curriculum with Sabin School at the Delta in early May.

The Troutdale code exemption did not pass. The City heard from SRBWC, Metro, and others interests, highlighting that the code was in violation of Metro codes and did not pass the resolution.

Comment

Dave Stewart, ODFW: It is not yet confirmed whether the City of Gresham may not provide fish passage with the repair of the Kelly Creek Kane Rd. culverts project currently slated for construction in 2019. The process might include a fish passage waiver with mitigation elsewhere in an effort to avoid a multi-million dollar bridge. Upstream habitat will need to be evaluated to make the determination whether the project must provide full passage, a waiver with no mitigation, or if there is no valuable upstream fish habitat, an exemption could be granted.

Announcements:

- The SRBWC website calendar is live with upcoming events and online registration.
- Construction on the Stark Street Bridge may begin as soon as June 22nd. SRBW and Multnomah County will be at the MHCC Saturday Market Saturday 5/20 and will also present at the Skyland Pub that morning from 10:30-12noon. The new steel culvert arch will span 40' and be 140' long to allow for the anticipated widening of Stark St. in coming years.

Upcoming Events

Next SRBWC **Board Meeting Monday May 22nd, 6:30 pm SWLC**

Bid Committee: Friday 5/12 1pm SRBWC office

Sandyversary Committee: TBD

Equity Committee: TBD

- Presentation at Skyland Pub regarding Stark St Culvert project: **Saturday May 20th 10:30-12noon**. SRBWC will also be tabling at the MHCC market 9-3 that day.
- Annual Picnic at the Marmot Dam site: **Saturday 7/29, 10:30-2:30**
- MHCC Salmon Safe Certification Celebration: **TBD**
- Timberline Cleanup: **Saturday September 16th 9-1pm**
- Delta Celebration: **Sunday September 17th**
- Floating Cleanup: **Saturday September 23rd 10-3 pm**
- Sandyversary Celebration: **Thursday October 19th**