



Approved Minutes of the May 21st, 2018 Council Meeting at the  
Sandy Watershed Learning Center

Present:

Steve Wise  
Sara Ennis  
Katherine Cory  
Melissa Cannell  
Alan L'Hommedieu  
Julie DiLeone  
Steve Rayne

Cindy Kolomechuk  
Howard Schaller  
Roy Iwai  
Janet Davis  
Matt Moreland  
Angie Kimpo  
Jason Hitzert –for Chris Gorsek  
Gerald Murphy

Cindy Kolomechuk called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. After introductions, the minutes from the March meeting were reviewed. Approval was moved by Steve Rayne and seconded by Alan L'Hommedieu. Minutes were approved.

### **Finances and Budget**

- 2018 YTD Date Funding:
  - Income YTD: \$ \$282,961.30
    - Direct Public Support 73%
    - Government Grants 26%
    - Private Funding 1%
  - Expenses YTD: \$ \$312,124.20
    - Staff 40%
    - Program/Project Expenses 57%
    - Administrative 3%
  - Accounts Receivable: \$106,990

### **Changes to Bylaws**

Notify board of new board position candidates one month prior to January board elections and send out minutes and agenda two weeks prior to next board meeting. Janet moved to vote, Matt seconded, and the board voted to approve the changes.

### **Hiring**

- Project Manager position: several applications have been received, interviews will be conducted early June and an offer made as soon as possible thereafter.
- Invasive Species Outreach Intern position has been posted and closes May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Board members discussed efforts towards diverse recruitment like sharing postings with partners such as ViveNW, Verde, softening education requirements, and removing names/addresses/identifying information from applications to reduce bias.

## **Council Program Updates**

### **Funder Updates**

- MHCC Retrofit: Spirit Mountain Capital granted \$50,000, Steve will be at the check dispersement ceremony next month. Funding possibilities: City of Troutdale is looking to mitigate outfall temperature on the Sandy –possible funding this year for retrofit, or for future dam removal. Steve has also solicited Blue Sky PacificCorps Habitat Fund, NFWF, and Port of Portland for end of year funds. The Council is looking to build up funding for the courtyard retrofit.
- Dam Removal Feasibility: The River Legacy Fund and OWEB are funding the study. OWEB funding allows for Oregon Solutions to evaluate the social value/concerns of dam removal.
- Delta Restoration: renewed National Forest Foundation; Metro and PGE Habitat pending
- Youth Stewardship Education: Collins and Gray Family Foundation proposals not funded. Funders circle indicated they are looking for more board involvement. Standard Insurance may be a possible future funder.
- Sandy-Salmon: NOAA Coastal Resilience proposal not funded, OWEB pending.
- Multnomah county is renewing an IGA with the Council for \$5,000

### **MHCC Retrofit Updates**

#### **Depave**

On Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup>, 130 volunteers, out of a 80 registrants, showed up to help depave sections of the MHCC parking lots EFGH. There were too many people to work safely, so Roy and Sara pulled off groups of people for Kelly and Beaver Creek watershed tours to show participants the creeks that are benefiting from the project. The tours were well received and an unexpected bonus to the project and volunteer experience. There were several challenges in getting to the point of depaving, including the college insisting that the curbs go in the following week and finding a contractor last minute to do so.

Bids for summer construction are due Friday May 25<sup>th</sup>. Once complete, the project will filter 4 million gallons of stormwater annually, capturing 78% of the runoff using 5% of the total surface area.

#### **Delta**

500 students, all of Powell Valley Elementary School, K-5, went to plant/mulch at the Delta over the course of three days in early April. 100-200 students attended each day and planted 2000 native plants and mulched 1100 trees. Bill provided in class sessions prior to the field visits. The same students came back out in May for outdoor experiential education with Confluence, Greg Archuleta, a Tradition Keeper offering Traditional Ecological Knowledge focused on plants, and USFS taught Gorge fire ecology.

The 75 volunteers from Daimler reintroduced rare/threatened species like Kincaid's lupine to the Delta. The annual Daimler planting is the most popular field trip for Daimler Corp, because restoration is fun! Blaze, the Blazers mascot and Channel 8 also attended.

## **EcoBlitz**

75 volunteers attended and made 174 observations of 110 species. The Clackamas County video production team attended and produced a complimentary 2.5 minute video available on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVwYB2YGoOE&feature=youtu.be>

The following week, Delta partners, including USFS, SRWC, Confluence, LCEP, and others met to discuss and coordinate delta restoration efforts. Lynn Burditt, USFS Area Manager, said, "This is a story that needs to be told more, of long term collaborative persistence in restoration." Topics discussed included opportunities for prairie restoration, strategies for minimizing canine impact, oak habitat restoration potential, and the difficulty of treating reed canary grass. The group also referenced documentation compiled in 'Urbanizing Flora of Portland' by John Christy et al, indicating what plants were present in the region prior to urbanization. Currently only 500 of the Delta's 1500 acres are easily accessible to canines and their owners.

## **Other Events**

The *OCEAN Connect Conference* was in Seaside in April. Steve coordinated a lamprey workshop titled "don't just check the box" on lamprey conservation with a panel of presenters including representatives from the Yakima and Grande Ronde tribes, JCWC volunteer monitoring program, USFWS, and others. Presenters shared information about "cheap restoration efforts" such as "wetted walls" that allow for lamprey passage and reintroducing adult lamprey where they have become extirpated or scarce, given the challenges of ascending 8 federal and several other dams on the Columbia River. These projects can potentially attract diverse funding from partners such as USFWS, NPCC, OWEB and others.

## **Honoring Melissa's AmeriCorps Service**

Melissa has provided invaluable service to the Council through the partnership with Multnomah County. She increased the number of volunteers/contacts by 25%, the number of SRWC events by 40%, social media followers by 1000%, Spearheaded a successful earth day cleanup, lead multiple work parties, gave multiple presentations, photo-documented events, stalked the elusive wolverine through Cascadia Wild, and designed a poster describing our outreach strategy for the ACWA conference. She is headed to Alaska for summer work the first week of June and will be greatly missed!

## **Kelly Creek Dam Removal Feasibility**

River Design Group is conducting the engineering/feasibility/cost estimate study. One of RDG's Sub-consultants has worked with colleges on related projects and understands the complexities involved. Partners for this project, including RDS, Oregon Solutions, RLF, City of Gresham, EMSWCD, and MHCC, will convene for a project kickoff meeting on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **Outreach Activities**

Activities include: MHCC Class Presentations, Club fair tabling, tabling at other MHCC events, University of Utah Smackdown planting, bilingual ViveNW Salmon River planting, Marmot tour, Earthday Cleanup, Pollinator workshop, Delta Eco-Blitz, and Depave.

### **Emerging Opportunities**

The Willamette River Big Float connects people directly with Portland's fluvial central nervous system. Willie, the founder of the Human Access Project which sponsors the Big Float, quotes that, "People will protect what they love," which is the inspiration for the event. As part of the statewide Clean Rivers Coalition initiative, Roy is coordinating with Willie to create a "watershed village" area for watershed councils to engage the anticipated 4-6,000 float participants in protecting their local rivers and creeks.

### **Council Meetings**

- **Monday September 24th** 6:30-8:30PM at the Sandy River Learning Center

### **Upcoming Events**

- Dam Removal Feasibility kickoff 5/30 10 am
- Spirit Mountain Check Ceremony 6/6 in Grand Ronde
- Yellow Billed Cuckoo training 6/7-8
- Tabling at MHCC Saturday Market 6/2\*
- MHCC Strawberry Short Course 6/23\*
- **SRWC Community Picnic Saturday 6/30 Dodge Park 11-2pm\***
- Willamette Big Float Saturday 7/14 volunteers needed!\*
- **Timberline Cleanup 9/15**
- **Floating Cleanup 9/22\***

Bold: Board Participation highly encouraged!

\*Spanish speaking staff present