

North Coast Watershed Association
Board of Directors Meeting
June 13, 2018
Astoria, OR 97103

Members Present: Chris Farrar, Ty Williams, Caroline Prospective, Mark Garrigues, Michael Summers and Tessa Scheller

Absent:

Staff: Jenn Rasmussen, Brooke Stanley

Our meeting was called to order by Chris at 1202 with pizza and introductions.

Jenn provided financial reports and reviewed the data. She noted we are below budget for expenditures. The balance sheets and categories were further explained. She noted small income from the Skipanon CD and explained a 2020 deadline for creating a retirement fund for employees. She noted options for contributing to the retirement fund. We currently do have a small retirement fund for Brooke as she elected to utilize her health care funds for that purpose.

Minutes from our February and April board meetings approved, by motion; Ty/Tessa all.

Brooke gave a presentation and reviewed our watershed monitoring program. The program is available on a our website. Brooke hired help to place temperature loggers this year with expanded monitoring in the Knappa and Ecola Watershed Council areas. Brooke noted safety concerns relative to placement in remote areas. She explained the reasoning and strategy for placement and the information the councils and DEQ need. Individual efforts by Jerome and Jesse were site specific. Formatting is another step in reporting and our monitoring sites are all on public property. There are access concerns for some Ecola sites and Brooke noted additional concerns for the Lewis and Clark River sites exceeding high temperatures. Other sites were reviewed for specific access concerns and Brooke is considering photos or videos to augment retrieval of the monitors.

Brooke reviewed her report and ongoing activities that included landowner outreach, Skipanon Peninsula planning, small grants and the chum SAP. We noted our great partnerships with multiple agencies continues.

Tessa was asked to provide further detail about the Skipanon Peninsula project and she explained the proposal for developing a mitigation wetlands bank within the southern portions of the area. Mitigation is needed by all of the potential partners that include the City of Warrenton, Port of Astoria, DSL and Clatsop County and we anticipate further outreach and cooperation.

Caroline inquired about small grant options for replanting areas in Cannon Beach. Brooke explained some of the process and suggested wild rose to replace the scotts broom. We talked about the small grant funding process and need to find additional pots of money where needed.

Brooke discussed her desire to be recognized as our Executive Director. This has been previously discussed and he title more clearly defines her growing role. We discussed the need to review and be congruent with our bylaws. Our deliberations resulted in a motion; Tessa/ Mark, all; to create the position of Executive Director and recognize Brooke in that role.

Vision planning: Tessa noted continuing efforts by several partners and Clatsop Community College to acquire ownership of the southern Tongue Point lands where the MERTS campus is now located. She anticipates more environmental research will occur there. We found agreement for the comprehensive geographic concept for identifying our Association. Education and outreach to the public are important aspects of what we do while the structure and roles of the councils may need further work. Donations can be encouraged through several organizations and most simply by our website located donate button. Website improvements were discussed and are continuing but data input as well as marketing are needed. Encouraging volunteerism is an ongoing need.

The Watershed Councils and the Association structure and relationship were another part of our deliberations. Items we discussed included: The NCWA as a legal entity, Councils as committees?, Keep councils involved, regional focus, different social groups, my backyard feelings, grassroots, Councils as a known brand, easy to drop in, presentations, feeling left out, current structure is working for some. Directions suggested: Avoid chaos and conflict with more structured meetings?, retain grassroots feel, councils function as a forum, alternate the structured meetings, and some staff/CEO support.

Next steps: Meet with Ecola, survey councils, consider meetings that include food and drink. Mark passed out brochures and explained the recreational permit system for Greenwood lands.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tessa J Scheller, Secretary
NCWA