

North Coast Watershed Association

Board of Directors Meeting

Oct. 21, 2015

NCWA Offices

Astoria, Oregon

Members Present: Chris Farrar, Mark Garrigues, Tessa Scheller, Scott Rekate, Katie Volke, Mike Seppa Carla Cole and our ODF rep are absent and excused.

Staff present: Brooke Stanley, Peggy Coreson is absent and excused

Visitors: Moria Golub, Padraic Buchanan, Paola Espinoza, Joyce Hunt

Our meeting was opened with a presentation from CCC Upward Bound students who are seniors at Astoria High School. They surveyed the 50 acre Fee-Simon restoration site and focused on studies before and after the dike was breached in several places. They looked at DO, PH and Temp in three places and examined other parameters for one day. Birds, amphibians and other indicator species they studied suggest the site is recovering well and being utilized. We applauded their efforts and presentation.

Chris made some opening remarks and asked for introductions all around. We welcomed Joyce as a colleague and chair of the Necanicum Watershed Council.

The minutes were "approved as presented" by motion; Katie/Tessa, all.

Brooke reviewed items from her Coordinators Update with discussion. Walooskee Headwaters planting is anticipated and effectiveness monitoring techniques noted. Brooke wrote a grant for Youngs Bay (including the Skipanon). Two grants were cancelled or postponed and another was declined by OWEB. State agency decisions, time constraints and corporate relations are factors we considered. We briefly discussed the frustrations of ODF&W constraints and the final cost estimates for the fish-ladder vs doing

a cost benefit reasonable project at the Cullaby dam in the Skipanon watershed.

Brooke introduced a discussion about our relations with partners and the ability to remain somewhat neutral and avoid conflict and controversy that may antagonize our critical stakeholders. We agreed that our Council and Association reps are advised to be clear about advocacy and the hat they wear when doing so. We discussed our basic mission statement that speaks to "healthy watersheds" and how we can best find common ground that we can have an impact on locally. Tessa noted her efforts to identify herself as "informed" by her watershed work when addressing issues or testimony and her separation of Association work and private interests. We recalled our challenges when the previous issues of marine reserves, ballot measures and our "position" we're being discussed by the BOD. We recommended a review of our policies in this regard.

We next contemplated the title, coordinator vs executive director, as most appropriate for Brooke. Chris and Tessa suggested an evolving position that grows as her staff role advances. To be reviewed at a subsequent meeting.

A fundraising appeal in the near term was discussed with suggestions for a very limited appeal to board and council members for unrestricted funds with a recognized target or gap of \$5,000. We agreed to this item by consensus.

Further fundraising activities and the creation of personal lists that are not limited to \$ but inclusive of friends, and anyone interested that cares about our efforts. Contact info and follow up are critical and Nature Matters is an example of where we may meet new folks. We also discussed different community venues for hosting the Nature Matters series. Ideas went round the table as we recognized the work involved. Building lists was our final send off for homework.

We thanked Brooke for our pizza dinner. Our next meeting is noon Dec 9th.

Respectfully submitted,

Tessa Scheller

