

NCWA
Board of Directors
Meeting minutes
February 15, 2017
Astoria offices

Members present: Carla Cole, Katie Voelke, Mark Garrigues, Chris Farrar, John Tillotson, and Tessa Scheller
Staff present: Brooke Stanley

The meeting was called to order at 1205 with our proposed agenda and minutes approved as presented by consensus.

We discussed fundraising efforts and needed activities will be addressed with BOD assistance. We anticipate an April or May letter will go out. NCWA committee reports will be added to our agenda

Self evaluation process: We reviewed the questionnaire and discussed each question with suggestions for improvement. We suggested an extra BOD meeting for creating a strategic plan. We noted our desire for improved government and fisheries representation. We were reminded about several roles and duties, including a treasurer, to upgrade our processes. Brooke noted she has offered the position of bookkeeper to Jennifer Rasmussen and she will start soon. We continued our review of organizational management and performance and programs with a general sense of being on the right track but we need to "tie things together in a reportable form". We have great partnerships, leadership and our funding model suggests a need for more diverse funding options. We are doing well with budgeting and opted to move on with other business at this time.

A Mill Creek update was facilitated by John who suggested a multi-year approach and assistance from an OWEB Small Grant. Culverts, fill, beavers and fish passage issues are some of the concerns to coordinate. Restoration work is needed for several projects.

Coordinators Update: The Bear Creek working group meeting, testing and priorities were discussed with Brooke given support, by consensus, for seeking greater transparency in City reporting. Citizen concerns are significant and a citizens review board was also suggested.

Brooke reviewed her staffing searches and provided some information about candidates for the interim coordinator position. We have strong folks in consideration and board members will assist in conducting interviews starting in March. She continues work on the capacity grant and work plans. Significant work continues at Alderbrook with great neighborhood cooperation. Eric was noted to be a great hire in that arena. Pollinator encouragement and partnerships are another feature of this site and is on track for budgeting. A summer burn, fall planting and signage are anticipated. Coho and Cocoa was another great success. The John Day project continues with funding in process and partnerships discussed. The Clifton culverts and the Chum FIP continue with good capacity and partnership development. Our monitoring grant was highly ranked and recommended for funding with Brooke being able to work with volunteers like Jerome and staff from ODEQ. The Bear Ck planting awaits landowner cooperation and detail. Brooke is meeting with the new NRCS rep and will partner with them on the L&C reach assessment.

The Shoreline Sanitary Service planting may wait till trees and staff time are available.

We anticipate a May meeting to meet with our interim coordinator and begin transition.

Good of the order: Carla noted that candle fish are currently running in the Columbia River and talked about their endangered status and problems with siltation as she ate them. Katie passed around a baby picture and discussed the "Summit to Sea" nature park concept. From Onion and Angora Peaks to the Pacific Ocean she noted rare habitats and the needed connectivity to ensure the biodiversity and sustainability for this proposed Rainforest Reserve or "Coastal Edge."

We adjourned at 1401.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tessa James Scheller