

ECWC meeting minutes 3-18-19

Present were: Brooke Stanley (NCWA), Scott Rekate (vice chair), Carolyn Propst (ECWC rep on NCWA), Ed Johnson, Jan Siebert-Wahrmund, Bruce St Denis (City), Mark Morgans (Greenwood), Bob Lundy (secretary), Lynette Villagomez (NCLC), Barb Knop.

The January 28 minutes were approved as corrected.

NCWA News—Brooke reported that the NCWA is reorganizing, and they hope to have more staff support for us soon. She is now full time, with nine grants to administer. She is preparing the final report on the large wood debris placement project. Plans are going ahead for decommissioning Shark Creek Road. She asked what our priorities are, and beaver was mentioned. Bruce said he will ask the City Council to establish a project allowance for Parks and Community Services Committee projects, including for the ECFR. Carolyn suggested that NCWA request OWEB grant money for Ecola Creek beaver projects and that we reallocate City beaver money to other projects. The next grant submittal deadline is April 29, and the next after that is the first of the new biennium, in October. OWEB requires at least 25% matching, some or all of which can be in kind.

Beaver—We discussed hiring a beaver expert consultant, and agreed to look into who that might be. Jan suggested the possibility that if we plant beaver forage they will come. Bruce said that the City [?] can commit by April 29. Brooke explained that if we were awarded a grant from the April round we would get the money around October. Bruce said the City will hire a beaver consultant, and that we should get the study done first and then apply in the October grant round. Mark offered that Greenwood would extend the study into their adjacent land, and would supply native willow wands to plant as forage. By unanimous vote, the Council agreed that it and NCWA [?] will support the City beaver initiative.

Council Chair Discussion— Carolyn offered to chair the ECWC for the next year while we seek another, preferably younger, person to hold the position in the longer term. She was elected unanimously with enthusiastic thanks. Mike noted that Austen Hymes will be the Greenwood rep on the NCWA, and will not be a prospect for ECWC chair.

Landowner Update—Mark reported that GW is having great success with beaver, having installed a beaver deceiver at a culvert inlet, limiting the height of their pond near the Lewis & Clark mainline road off Wahana Road. He distributed brochures for the Clatsop Working Watersheds Cooperative. He can supply surplus seedlings, which the Watershed Council may avail themselves of to distribute at their 12 Days street fair booth.

Scott pointed out that the seedlings at Circle Creek are looking poorly. Mark suggested they may have waterlogged roots.

2014 ECWC Action Plan Review—There was a discussion of “ECWC action plan 2014-02-19.pdf” We need to review/prioritize/delete.

Our 12 Days ivy pull event will take place behind the CB Academy in Tolovana, with Nadia Gardner’s guidance. Jan will check whether we need NCWA tools. Broom Buster is now scheduled for 10:00 on May 18, starting at Les Shirley Park.

Carolyn passed around plots of Ecola Creek temperature and flow data. From her follow-up email:

- > Ecola Creek Instantaneous Flow and Stage and Mean Daily Flow. Go to web
- > site below, select 'North Coast' for the Basin. Then select North Fork
- > or West Fork. From there the user can select a date range and the data
- > to plot. The data can also be downloaded.
- >
- > https://apps.wrd.state.or.us/apps/sw/hydro_near_real_time/
- >
- > Water Temperatures. Go to the website below. Select Monitoring; there is
- > a link to download data from 2017. Note there is no Ecola data for 2016.
- > The 2018 data has not yet be analyzed so it not yet on the website.

Jan asked if we can get water usage data from Public Works via Carolyn on the PW Committee. Carolyn asked Bruce for access to the PW data, which he agreed to.

The subject of HB2656 was discussed briefly. Mark pointed out that if forest land that has been actively managed for a century and a half were left to itself the roads would be left to decay. The bill would ban all spraying, not only aerial spraying.

Mark reported that, with county cooperation, a group of young and enthusiastic mountain bikers are building a bike course in Klotchy Creek County Park. This is good for us, as we can redirect mountain bikers there who may otherwise want to ride on our foot trails.

The next meeting will be on May 20.