

## **Ecola Creek Watershed Council Meeting Minutes May 19, 2018**

Present were: Brooke Stanley (North Coast Watershed Association, NCWA), Mark Morgans (Greenwood Resources, GR), Caroline Propst, Jan Siebert-Wahrmund, Brenna Visser (CB Gazette), Bruce St. Denis and Mark Barnes (City of CB), Mike Manzulli, and Bob Lundy.

Mike briefly explained the history and function of the NCWA for Bruce's benefit, and Brooke described recent changes there, including that things are in flux. The NCWA board meets on the second Wednesday of even-numbered months, alternating between 12-2pm and 6-8pm. Their next meeting is scheduled for April 11, but this may change.

Brooke reported that construction on the replacement culvert to enable fish to swim up Asbury Creek under highway 101 may begin in 2021. Also, there have been talks with Darren Stringer of Ecotrust Forest Management about road relocation. Mark M called attention to a recent front-page article in the Oregonian about Ecotrust, both the non-profit and the related for-profit business. [presumably [http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2018/03/destined\\_to\\_fail\\_oregon\\_offici.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2018/03/destined_to_fail_oregon_offici.html)].

The coordinator of the Necanicum Watershed Council has resigned, so the council is seeking to hire a replacement. Brooke, whose position is part-time, has applied to add this second part-time job. there are two other applicants.

CB is raising its water rates, though for now not as much as requested.

Surfrider and HRAP have hired former ECWC coordinator Jesse Jones.

The Sweigart property acquisition fell through, so the OWEB grant money for removing the culvert there will be returned, but GR is committed to removing it this year. The opinion was expressed that a couple of guys with a power hacksaw could take it out.

Discussions are under way with Barry Sims of Trout Mountain about evaluation of roads [in the Ecola Creek Forest Reserve?].

Mark M reported that it is now free and easy to get a permit from GR to be on their property for recreation with no powered vehicles, including drones. See the brochure attached as two pdf files.

As usual, GENA will meet tomorrow.

The water conservation committee has prepared a list of conservation activities, with a separate list for businesses. Distribution of these, such as in the form of

inserts in the City water bills, would cost money that is not there. Bruce will look into putting it on the City Web site.

Friends of Trees reports that CB is again certified a Tree City USA, now for the tenth (not consecutive) year. They are working with Joe Baldin, and appreciate the job Jeff Gearhart did in trimming the trees on the east side of Highway 101.

The RV park project across 101 from Arcadia Beach is now waiting for a storm water permit from DEQ.

In the North End of Cannon beach, beavers have dammed the west branch of Logan Creek, between Larch and Laurel, between 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. With neighbors' agreement, plans are under way to install a pond leveler so that the dam will meet the beavers' needs without backing up water into people's yards—a depth of about 2 or 3 ft. Troy Laws of ODF&W is sending design documentation. The pond leveler will be built by volunteers from materials purchased with donated money, and installed by CB Public Works staff. Neighbors will sign releases for PW personnel to come on their property to install and maintain the leveler. This is seen as a long-term solution, and may serve as a pilot project.

Mike Morgan has contacted Nadia Gardner about CB possibly acquiring more property from GR to extend the Forest Reserve, with the next area being the recharge area for the springs that supply the city's drinking water. Mark M says that GR is not seeking to sell off its forest but is receptive to public acquisition of pieces for conservation purposes. ECWC would not be a party to this.

GR has replanted the area northeast of town that was sold and logged last year, planting 435 trees per acre.

The sand-filled "burrito bags" with willow shoots sticking out have been of limited use along the washed-out edge of Ecola Creek near Larch St. It was suggested that they would be more stable if installed along with cobble berm. It was also suggested that the best approach would be to relocate threatened infrastructure. [Mark Barnes?] said that the utilities have assured the City they will relocate anything of theirs that is in danger.

Ivy Free Tree Day is tentatively scheduled for the first week in April, and Broom Buster Day for May 19 from 10:00 to 1:00.

The next meeting will be on May 21.

The Community Forest Forum will take place in Astoria on May 9-11.