



Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Nature & Trails Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: 9/30/2020

Time: 18:30

Location: Zoom Meeting

In Attendance

Committee Members: Margaret Hite, Grace Heassler, Laura Porter, Sam Scheerens, Alison Rhea, Sheri Wantland (chair), James Wright

Board Liaison: Heidi Edwards

Staff: Bruce Barbarasch

Guests:

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm

There were no visitors

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from August meeting were reviewed, Alison recommended a non-material change; Laura moved to approve as amended, Alison seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Old Business

Recent park/trail experiences

- James went to Tualatin Hills Nature Park – There was a lot of blowdown
- Laura went to neighborhood parks and also saw the impacts of the wind.
- Heidi let us know about some events.
- Alison enjoyed her first visit to Lowami Hart Woods.
- Margaret noted new face mask signs but players weren't wearing them on the pickleball courts.
- Grace saw a person walking a pig at Hyland Woods.
- Sheri did ambassador patrol on the Rock Creek Trail which has lots of users. She thanked committee members for their commitment and expertise.

Updates

1. Bethany Trail is nearly done.
2. Vision plan: Action plan formally adopted by board and available online. Sheri commended District leadership for the emphasis on diversity, equity, inclusion and access.
3. Fire management: Bruce described THPRD policy, Especially as it relates to Cooper Mountain Nature Park where fire is most likely. Bruce also reviewed the general process of fire management Process for the rest of the District.
4. Pools: reopening has been a big challenge due to demand and changing state guidelines; THPRD is consulting with other rec organizations and evolving state guidelines as they move forward.

IV. New Business

NRFP: Natural Resource Functional Plan.

Chapter 5: Decision making processes -- The group reviewed two scenarios to illustrate the use of the decision matrix and flowchart, noting the challenges of objectively comparing potentially conflicting factors. Sheri thanked staff for devising a flowchart that is practical and easy to use.

E-bikes

Jeff Pazdalski, Executive Director of Westside Transportation Alliance, gave a presentation about bikes, the various types, regulations, safety, advantages and benefits to the community. He suggested THPRD partner with community organizations that are already working in this space to educate people about the trail system, and enhance ridership by engaging with large employers. He recommended signage (speed, bike use areas). Laura suggested delineating bike and non-bike parks if ridership increases significantly. Margaret noted that she has found no evidence that supports that signage can change behavior.

VI. Next Meeting: Joint meeting – Oct 21, 6:30 pm by Zoom

Laura encouraged breakout rooms; requested facilities reopening as an agenda item.

Respectfully submitted,
James Wright

Recording Secretary