

Minutes of the npGreenway Board Meeting (via Zoom)
May 19, 2021

ATTENDEES:

Board Members: Lenny Anderson, Jay Bockelman, Pat Jewett, Cynthia Newton, Francie Royce (acting chair), Pam Arden, Steven McClure, Jeff Lang
Guests: Caroline Skinner, Mel Huie, Allan Schmidt

Approval of Minutes: The April 2021 minutes were reviewed and approved with one edit: under Swan Island report should read: Lenny spoke with Robert Spurlock and urged him to acquire the easement needed.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$586.30 in our account.

OLD BUSINESS

A. National Park Service Grant Update (Jeff)

We got the grant. Thanks to Jeff's daughter Sophia for her assistance. The grant is not one of funds but rather resources to locate a subcontractor to help us build an organizational plan and to identify current and future needs.

Assistance from National Parks employees Dan Miller (in Oregon) and Barbara Rice (SF) was instrumental.

Obtaining this grant lifts the presence of the npGreenway trail by providing a stamp of approval. We want to share this success story by sending a letter. Jay and Jeff will work to draft a letter that others can modify into a letter to each of the following:

- Parks
- Francie? will send a letter to Metro Council President Lynn Peterson
- Francie? will send a letter to District 5 Metro Councilor Mary Nolan
- Jeff? will send a letter to Portland City Commissioner Carmen Rubio
- ? Will write to Friends of Baltimore Woods
- ? Will write to 40-mile loop
- ? Will let Scott Mizze know?

Report on Columbia Crossing Project (Allan)

The project is at 30% design completion. Metro and Parks have determined that it is not in best interest of the parties for Allan to manage the project under Metro. Rather, Parks will manage the project with Allan advising unofficially. Parks' Evan Callahan will be project manager.

Nick Fish appointed Adena Long (formerly of NY City Parks) to be Director of Parks in 2019. Long will have a tremendous influence on whether the Columbia Bridge project is

built. Metro Parks and Nature Director Jon Blasher is also an big influencer. Long's and Blasher's support and advocacy are needed to secure funds to close the \$3 shortfall. The total cost is \$6.8 million and Metro has committed \$3 million. There is another nearly \$1 million in federal funding [need to confirm]. The bridge over the railroad cut in Chimney Park cost \$3 million and it was shorter and far less complicated.

We had a lively discussion about where additional funds might come from, including from state senators who may have received \$1 million each from the COVID relief funds. Tina Kotek and Lew Fredericks each should or would have received these funds. Francie agreed to reach out to Fredericks and Pat agreed to reach out to Kotek.

There are enough funds to finish the design of the Prairie trail. It will cost another 2.5 to build it. An enhancement fund may also be available to fund design. Allan opines that if the bridge is funded the trail to the lookout also will be funded and built because folks will be motivated to have the bridge lead to a distinct destination.

Community engagement will be welcome around art at the overlook and perhaps on the bridge. Federal funds do not carry the 1% for art rule so City and Metro will have to fund the art.

Swan Island Trail Update (Lenny)

Lenny spoke with Aaron who reported that Adidas wrote a letter supporting the Basin Ave cycle track. The idea is to go to Daimler and ask it to sign on. Effective Feb 2021 Daimler has new exec, John O'Leary, a cycling enthusiast.

PBOT Project Manager Zef forwarded project details to Mark Lear who oversees the federal Flex Funds.

Cynthia offered to draft a letter to O'Leary re npGreenway, thanking him for the gorgeous section Daimler built, describing the National Parks grant, mentioning the Basin Ave cycle track project and describing npGreenway's vision that the trail stay along the river alignment and the value of 2nd access to/from SI.

Report on Willamette Falls

The Tribe bought the fall and now riverwalk in Oregon City is up in the air.

Friends of Baltimore Woods Work Parties

Held every Thursday from 7-8 p.m. they are good opp for networking and summer fun and productivity. More info here:

<https://www.friendsofbaltimorewoods.org/upcoming-events/>

Other Agenda Items

Remaining agenda items were deferred to next meeting, including the idea of having targeted subcommittees to work on projects, Metro's Peterson bringing back Transit Package, Regional Walking and Biking Connections, Willamette Falls Bike/Ped Plan and Albina Vision.

Next Meeting

June 9, 2021, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Newton

