

Minutes of the npGreenway Board Meeting (via Zoom)
January 13, 2021

ATTENDEES:

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

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES: The December 2020 minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Pam reports that after paying for bandanas and brochures (with some Board member donations and help from Jeff Lang's fund) we have \$963.90. \$26.75 is from Fred Meyer friends program—we have 6 friends.

Update on Columbia Blvd. Bridge and St. John's Prairie

Both projects are nearing 30% design. Next week a geotech analysis (core samples, etc.) will be done to see if current bridge alignment can be supported by the soils. Project is underfunded and the overages appear to be about \$3.7 million. A new issue has arisen because of a lawsuit filed by a cyclist James Thorne v. The City of Portland, the Port and Metro [filed May 2020, MultCo case number 19CV27881] stemming from an incident in which he rode into a chain between metal posts and suffered a neck and wrist injury. Metro is expressing serious concern about funding trail projects in light of possible liability claims such as these. Allan understands recreational immunity may not apply to project Metro. In addition to funding issues, most likely Allan will be extricated from project supervision because his involvement will make Metro subject to liability. Portland Parks will be taking the major role.

The Board supported Trang's suggestion that we send a letter to Carmen Rubio (new Commissioner for Parks) and Mary Nolan, Metro Council Chair highlighting the Columbia project and inviting them to tour. The letter may not reference the suit and issues it has caused directly but may allude to issues regarding litigation and liability. Trang will send a draft by email to the Board.

Willamette Cove

Scott Mizze reported that as a result of the Resolution Sam Chase helped pass means Bond Measure money is now available to possibly be used for the cleanup.

Paul Slyman of Metro Paul.Slyman@oregonmetro.gov is taking over Willamette Cove as part of his special projects assignment.

Allan explained that the fill—the cap—is the ziggurat. There are several hot spots—some close to the tracks. This impacts views, habitat. May be possible to cap it and have the trail go over it.

Lenny asked whether the Record of Decision aka the ROD is out yet and it is not.

Jeff reported that Sam Chase remains engaged with Willamette Cove and wants to see the good work go forward.

Swan Island

Lenny reported that now that we have Zef's report we should set up a meeting to discuss alignment between the trail and the boat launch--access or easement across the property adjacent to the boat launch.

BES might be more open to access alongside its property rather than through its parking lot.

Inter-Agency Meeting

Will take place in March and we will discuss at our February meeting what we want to see on the agenda.

Baltimore Woods

Francie had talked with City planner Francesca doing freight update for whole city. If there is no industrial use the freight route design could be taken off. No new info on this.

The City bought an easement from an indiv property sale which will give some additional land to Baltimore Woods.

Mel Huie Joining the Board

The Board encourages Mel to join us as a formal Board member. He wants to stay involved, but as a volunteer/visitor for now.

Next Meeting

February 10, 2021, 5:00 p.m. via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Newton