

ORTAC Meeting



Minutes of the meeting: Date: Monday, January 30, 2006

Time: 10:00am – 3:30pm

Where: Salem HQ, Room 124

Council Members:

Ric Balfour, Congressional District 1 – present

Bruce Ronning, Congressional District 2 – present

Ernie Drapela, Congressional District 3 – present

Chuck Solin, Congressional District 4 (Coastal Rep) – present

Terry A Wheeler, Congressional District 5 – present

Bruce Galloway, Congressional District 5 – present

C. John Mare, Congressional District 5 (Coastal Rep) – absent

OPRD Staff:

Rocky Houston, State Trails Coordinator – present

Richard Walkoski, Recreation Programs Manager – present

Other OPRD Staff Present:

Jan Houck, Rivers Program Coordinator

Terry Bergerson, Planning Coordinator

Kyleen Stone, Assistant Director, Administration

David Wright, Assistant Director, Operations

Vanessa DeMoe, Forestry & Recreation Programs Assistant

Open of Meeting – Ernie Drapela

Welcome

Self Introductions

State Trail Plan Presentation – Terry Bergerson

Discussion points:

- Acknowledgement of increase in non-motorized boating; possible funding through the Marine Board?
- Advisory groups for each category, non motorized, motorized, water.
- With the role of ORTAC changing this may address issue.

Willamette River Water Trail Update – Jan Houck

- Willamette Water Trail packets were distributed.
- Willamette Water Trail Guide was introduced/explained.
- Water trail has 3 phases-total of 255 river miles
 - 1st phase – 35 mile segment, opened June 05, Buena Vista to Wheatland Ferry
 - 2nd phase – 127 mile segment, open June 06,
 - 3rd phase – 72 miles + 21 channel miles, open June 07,
- Focus
 - Safety issues
 - Creating enough opportunities so that you do not have to be on private property
- Partners
 - Clubs
 - Private
 - Public
- Inventory is in the process of being finalized, copy of the inventory is in packet
 - Inventory is being used to locate gaps
 - restroom needs
 - parking
 - launching sites
 - day use/overnight needs
- Guides will also be used to connect with the community. They will identify other resources. Possibly local coffee stops, etc.

Discussion points/comments:

- Funding
- Partners - Willamette River Keepers will take over the project once the guide is printed. They will charge a fee for reprinting and will have an interactive web site. This will create a single source of organization.
- Dialogue between water trails and scenic byway? – Yes, will link other resources, bikeways, etc.
- New position announced that will coordinate bicycle trails, will work in Recreation Programs. They will promote bicycle opportunities, development of trails, etc. This will help connectivity in the programs.
- OregOn Cycling article
- How do we take success and copy statewide?
- It is a great model for other projects.
- In working with other water trail efforts, no guide exists for this kind of plan, other projects look dramatically different. This is an opportunity for this group to provide a basic idea of how to do this.
- Interpretive component – signs will be placed along water trail to showcase history
- Interpretive materials – highlight natural history on the map. Avoid too many ideas/panels along natural trails.
- Is there an opening date for the upper Willamette? Yes, June 3, Trails Day.

Action: Jan Houck – Create +Email+ Distribute list of Willamette Water Trail events

- Discussion on dangers of the Willamette Water Trail; hazards, ratings, education, awareness

*Action: Jan Houck, put ORTAC on Will Wtr Trail email list for wtr trail mtgs
Correction: Add only Chuck Solin to meeting list and for all events*

ORTAC Priority Strategies

Each bulleted priority, pages 44 & 45 in the Oregon Trails 2005-2014: A Statewide Action Plan, was read aloud and discussed.

Public Comment – Al LePage

- Thanked attendees and acknowledged Ernie Drapela for his work and commitment
- Vision: National Coast Trail
- Shared information on the Oregon Coast Trail, Sam Dicken and Jack Remmington
- Presented the report, “Oregon Coast Trail; Missing Links, Priorities, and Solutions” to ORTAC
- Highlighted Appendix H in the report
- Distributed and discussed Appendix F
- “Oregon Coast Trail Pass!”
- Distributed Newsletter – National Coast Trail Association
- Copies of the Oregon Coast Trail Map also distributed

Business Items

State Trails Day 2006 – discussion & comments

- As you become aware of events alert the group so that there can be ORTAC representation
- Possibility of scheduling an ORTAC meeting on State Trails Day
- It is important for the Governor to sign Trails Proclamation
Protocol - ORTAC would ask the Commission to ask the Governor to do so
Updates - Modify language, update on trails plan, and highlight efforts underway

Action:

- *Get on March agenda to present request for Trails Proclamation to the Commission*
- *Update:*
- *Full Commission agenda in March – go for April agenda for Newman Award.*

Bruce Ronning makes the motion to have ORTAC petition the OPRD Commission for the Governor to proclaim State Trails Day

Second – Ernie Drapela

Second – Chuck Solin

In Favor – All

Opposed – 0

Doug Newman Award – discussion & comments

- What is the award? “volunteer of the year for trail activities”
- How has it been done in the past?
Solicit nominations from any and all pertinent groups & ORTAC
 - Narrow nominees to 2 or 3
 - ORTAC makes final vote
- Will the announcement be done on State Trails Day?
- Add to work list for RTP

Action:

- *Rocky will draft a nomination form with the criteria for Ernie to look at. The nomination document will be sent out as a Press Release.*
- *Terry Wheeler requested the distribution/ mailing list.*

2006-07 Meeting Schedule

Meeting Day Discussion

Weekend meetings have been done in the past. What are some ideas or preferred choices?

- Interfacing with public, statewide events. Network and improve visibility. Weekend or Friday-Saturday meeting times preferred.
- Daytime meeting for group, evening time for the public.
- Best public participation, mornings 10am. Eve not preferred. The key is to get the message out in advance.
- Public time should not be in the day time because of work schedules.
- Public input – Friday to Saturday Good. Friday for agency input, Friday afternoon for ORTAC business, Sat morning for public and Sat afternoon for possible field trip.
- Coordinate meetings with events, ribbon cuttings, volunteer events, tours
- Ernie – try Fri-Sat schedule at next meeting.
Friday afternoon 1-5
Saturday AM, public

Meeting on trails day

- By having a meeting on Trails Day all members would be at one location. Should all of the members be at one function at the same time or should each person be at a different function representing ORTAC?

RTP Meeting Discussion

- Wednesday or Friday would be the best meeting time
- Can staff pre sort through applications for the committee?
Staff are not in the position to review but can take out unqualified apps
Staff cannot remove applicants from the running
Staff can review for qualification but not for scoring
Rocky is thorough with communicating details for expectations on grant applications
- Grant staffing structure explained
- Grant process and procedure discussion led by Rocky Houston
- Rocky discussed an RTP policy to establish RTP as a stand alone committee of 9 members, 3 year terms, each year 3 would end term.

Meeting Dates-Locations

March	Portland	RTP Mtg
May	Medford	May 19 th -20 th
August	Waldport	August 4 th -5 th
October	Forest Grove	October 6 th -7 th
January 07	Salem	
Spring 07	Eugene	
Summer 07	Bend	
Fall 07	Gresham	

Action:

- *Bruce Ronning and Chuck Solin have 07 meeting dates in mind to announce at the next meeting.*

Review of 2005 Trails Report – Rocky Houston

Rocky provided a trails report summary/review hand out.

House Keeping – Rocky Houston

- Expense Forms
- Contact Information

Action:

- *Rocky will update and email contact list*

June 04 Mtg – Ernie Drapela

Accept minutes versus approving them. Attendance of meeting does not require approval of minutes.

2004 Award

Recommend Al LePage for award.

Discussion on 2004 award, should 04 be skipped, should 04 electives be forwarded to 05, or do both years; award a 04 & 05 recipient.

Ernie and Bruce Ronning make the motion to elect Al LePage for 2004 and to move ahead with the 2005 process.

Second – Ric Balfour

In Favor – All

Opposed – 0

Action:

- *Locate plaque and research years award.*

Elections

Declare Chair and Vice Chair open for nominees for 2006 term.

Bruce Galloway nominates Ernie Drapela as Chair

Second – Terri Wheeler

In Favor – All

Opposed – 0

Ric Balfour nominates Bruce Ronning as Vice Chair

Second – Terri Wheeler

In Favor – All

Opposed – 0

Good of the Order

Trail Builders Conference

Discussion on natural progression of trails

- extreme sports
- technical challenge areas
- sustainable way to deal with usage