



Oregon Recreation Trails Advisory Council

Minutes

Friday, January 19 2018
9:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Port of Cascade Locks
427 Portage Rd
Cascade Locks, OR

Housekeeping

Attendance: Lauralee Svendsgaard, Chair and District 5 (Coast Representative)
Jim Thayer, District 1
Robert Spurlock, District 3
Rod Sell, District 4
Del Scharffenberg, District 5
Julie Chick, District 5 (Coast Representative)

OPRD Staff: David Stipe, OPRD Staff
Jodi Bellefeuille, OPRD Staff
Nicole Sprecher, OPRD Staff

Other Attendees: Seth Miller – Oregon State Parks Foundation, Becky Wolf – former ORTAC member, and current RTP Committee member, Renee Tkach – Gorge Towns to Trails & Friends of the Columbia River Gorge, Stan Hinatsu – Columbia River Gorge Forest Service, Jan McCartan – Port of Cascade Locks, Brittany Berge – Port of Cascade Locks, Sandra Hikari – Oregon Dept. of Transportation

Agenda Item: Minutes (Action)
Presented by: Lauralee Svendsgaard

ORTAC meeting minutes were reviewed.

Motion to approve by Jim Thayer.
Seconded by Robert Spurlock.

Motion carried unanimously.



Local Agency / Trail Advocate Updates

Agenda Item: Impacts to Trails in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area (Information)
Presented by: Stan Hinatsu

Questions:

Del – Is there impact to the Pacific Crest Trail for thru hikers?

- The PCT is totally closed now, but it is one of the higher priority trails to assess and repair. The Forest Service has not had a chance to do an assessment higher up but they are hoping to have it opened this summer or fall.

Jim – Is there any information on economic impacts to the local community? How about damage to the Washington side?

- Forest Service is unsure of how revenue is being tracked, there is an economic recovery council in place. The Forest Service is trying to get sites open as soon as safety allows. There was lots of damage done, and some spaces won't be open for a long time.
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Agenda Item: Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail (Information)
Presented by: Oregon Department of Transportation

Questions:

Del – How has the fire damaged the historic highway bike route?

- There is some damage to the barrier, and some trees will have to be removed. Some funding is needed for this project, and some construction is under way in some areas.

Rod – Who is making the signs?

- ODOT has bids out with three different companies, OPRD is doing the contracting. The signs are very expensive.

Robert – Will the new bridge incorporate some of the historic components? Can you tell us more specifically where your funding came from for the completed projects? How much did it cost?

- ODOT has to follow trail design procedures for guidelines. The funding for Mitchell Point was \$22 million, the whole highway was probably more than \$3 billion. Funding came from multiple sources: Federal Lands Access Program, Oregon Transportation Commission (\$5.6 million), and various others.
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Agenda Item: Resilience of the Columbia River Gorge (Information)
Presented by: Renee Tkach



Agenda Item: Oregon State Parks Foundation (Information)
Presented by: Seth Miller

Questions:

Lauralee – How is the foundation funded? Can the foundation do lobbying in behalf of Oregon State Parks? How do you determine where your funds are allocated?

- Funding comes from membership dollars, legacy gifts, and administrative fees as well. They can apply for grants, and eligible for corporate dollars. The foundation can't have more than 15% of their efforts go to lobbying as they are a 501c3. Oregon State Parks Foundation works with Oregon State Parks to select projects have the most fundraising appeal, and works toward what Parks would like to have done.

Jim – Would you describe the organization as a public entity and also a 'Friends of' group? Are there any current challenges?

- OSPF does not run programs, which exclude them for being a public entity. 'Friends of' groups often only represent one area, while the Foundation only raises money to then give it away. The biggest challenge is the unknown; they are hoping donors will still continue to donate. Donations could go down by almost 30%.
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Agenda Item: Port of Cascade Locks (Information)
Presented by: Jan McCartan

Questions:

Lauralee - Will the expanded bridge have equestrian access? Who are you working with?

- Yes, we have been working with several people from Back Country Horsemen have been instrumental for helping this project. Eventually the Port would like to have more support for equestrian facilities and trails.

Jim – I feel there is little concern with the pre-settlement history in this area, hiking and trails should be a way to showcase this history.

- There is lots of history within the facility, the Port works with 4 different treaty tribes that all have rights and access to the Port park. All of this is very complex, there are many different leaders and councils to work with to make things happen.

Robert – How much of your revenue is from the toll bridge? Where does the rest of the revenue come from? What is the geographic extent of your administrative district?

- 80% of the revenue comes from the toll bridge, and the Port is moving towards becoming 100% self-sustainable. The rest of the revenue comes from rentals and the sternwheeler rental as well. The Port District goes all the way up to Mt. Hood to Cooper Spur.



Agenda Item: Eagle Creek Fire Emergency Rescue (Information)
Presented by: Scott Lucas

Questions:

Lauralee – Do you have search and rescue teams?

- No, each sheriff in the county has a search and rescue team, or volunteer groups that work with the counties. SAR is not funded at all, the funding either comes from the county sheriff's budget, or by volunteers. Scott is called when areas are overwhelmed, such as the Eagle Creek Fire. Out of 1200 SAR missions, majority happens within March to October.

Agenda Item: Recreational Trails Program Update (Information)
Presented by: Jodi Bellefeuille

Lauralee – For your 2017 projects, how much funding did those projects receive?

- While an exact number couldn't be thought of, it was approximately \$1.6 million.

Council Business Items

Agenda Item: SCORP Update (Information)
Presented by: Terry Bergerson

There is a priority for trail development projects, and rehabilitation of current existing trails. The #1 request is to provide trails that are close to home, this is the best way to encourage people to exercise and get outdoors.

Agenda Item: Roseburg Trail Application (Information)
Presented by: Lauralee

In regards to this application, ORTAC is currently in step three, review and consultation. The next step is the actual physical review of the trail with the applicant.

Agenda Item: Oregon Trails Coalition Update (Information)



Presented by: Lauralee

They hosted a great webinar. This foundation is up and coming, and there were discussions as to whether or not they wanted to join a nonprofit or become their own individual nonprofit. A question came up as to whether or not ORTAC would like to support them? If this organization is realized this is something that ORTAC should be behind it 100%.

Agenda Item: Table Top Display (Information)
Presented by: David

David has worked with CARD to create a table top display for functions like the Trails Summit. An outside consultant was hired, and they created an 8' long display that has been sublimated onto lycra and then fitted to an aluminum frame. Robert had concerns with lack of diversity, and Julie and Lauralee would be willing to assist with the project.

Agenda Item: Oregon Coast Trail (Information)
Presented by: David

Nothing to report.

Agenda Item: Water Trail Designation (Information)
Presented by: David

There is language in the OAR that discusses terrestrial trails, and it would be easier to exchange a few words rather than adding a new set of rules or statutes. David will discuss with appropriate staff as to whether the OAR or the ORS needs to change.

Agenda Item: Scenic Bikeways (Information)
Presented by: Lauralee

The Crooked River Scenic Bikeway has been submitted to the Commission for approval in February. The committee is also working to complete their strategic plan, and will provide ORTAC with an update in April.

Agenda Item: Regional & Scenic Trail Designation (Information)



Presented by: David

The Ridgeline Trail Application will go before the commission in July.

Agenda Item: Office of Outdoor Recreation (Information)
Presented by: David

There is has been 116 applicants, and 14 people were invited to do a interview via video. Another group is slated to interview on February 6th.

Agenda Item: Bylaws (Information)
Presented by: David

David would like to have Nicole use track changes to merge the old bylaws and new bylaws, to see where there may be any issuses with language. Lauralee was not okay with the new bylaws, and felt like more feedback is needed. The suggestion was made to table the bylaws for now.

Agenda Item: Oregon Trails 2016 Plan (Information)
Presented by: David

David suggests that there are some action items in the Oregon Trails 2016 book that ORTAC can do and be a part of if ORTAC feels they need different types of projects. Nicole will source a few more books for members. There was also discussion that ORTAC would like a shorter URL for the website, David and Nicole will discuss that with CARD.

Agenda Item: Meeting Schedule (Information)
Presented by: Lauralee & David

The April meeting will have to be rescheduled due to schedule conflicts, several members will not be able to attend. Members would like to meet in Klamath Falls, and review the OC&E trail on Thursday before the meeting, and then wrap up the review that Saturday as the field trip. Dates will be determined at a later time. The other meeting dates and places are to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.



Council Site Visits

Saturday, January 28, 2017
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

A walking tour of Starvation Creek was completed.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:00 a.m.
