



## Oregon Recreation Trails Advisory Council

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# Minutes

Friday, July 21, 2017  
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Astoria Holiday Inn Express  
204 West Marine Drive  
Astoria, OR

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Attendance: Lauralee Svendsgaard, Chair and District 5 (Coastal Rep)  
Jim Thayer, District 1  
Joe Kresse, District 2  
Robert Spurlock, District 3  
Rod Sell, District 4  
Becky Wolf, District 5  
Julie Chase Chick, District 5 (Coastal Rep)

OPRD Staff: David Stipe  
Terry Bergerson, Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)  
Planner  
Jodi Bellefeuille, RTP  
Alex Phillips, Bikeways and Waterways Coordinator

Other Attendees: Steve Kruger, Trailkeepers of OR  
Dane Osis, OPRD – Ft. Stevens  
Jon Burpee, National Park Service  
Rory Hammond, OET  
JoAnn Woelfle, Tillamook County Parks  
Ken Shonkwiler, ODOT  
Lisa Phipps, Tillamook Estuaries  
Tess Scheller, NCT Coalition  
Bob Westerberg, Augora Hiking Club  
Glenn Harrison, OHTAC  
Matthew Weindum, NW Trail Alliance  
Amy Hurst, OPRD – Oswald West  
Chris Quackenbush, NW Coast Trail Alliance

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**Friday, July 21, 2017 – 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM**

9:00 AM Housekeeping

- Welcome

- Introductions
- Acceptance of Meeting Agenda
- Approval of April 2017 Minutes
  - Change the reference of Elaine and Pat to representing Trailkeepers not the City.
  - Remove the second reference for Dennis.
  - Meeting minutes from the April 2017 meeting were approved with the revisions noted above.
- Announcements
  - Lauralee provided an overview of ORTAC and its activities and programs.
  - Alex announced the public meeting for the Nehalem River Scenic Waterway designation.

9:30 AM Public Comments

- No General Public Comments

9:40 AM \*State entities

- Oregon Historical Trails Advisory Committee – Glenn Harrison
  - Provided an overview of the Committee and its charter to oversee and provide advice on Oregon's 16 historic trails. In the past focused on preservation and lately have made attempts to support interpretive improvements to trails.
  - Next OHTAC meeting is September 23-25 in La Grande, Oregon.
- Trailkeepers of Oregon – Steve Kruger
  - Provided an overview of the organization and an outline for their future. Their mission being to protect and enhance the Oregon hiking experience through advocacy, stewardship, outreach and education.
  - Also highlighted a desire to partner with all trail users not just focus on hikers.
  - Expressed a desire to build partnerships with OPRD and other land managers to assist with training and supervising volunteer trail crews.

10:00 AM \*Local entities

- Oregon Equestrian Trails, Columbia County Chapter – Rory Hammond
  - Provided an overview of the chapter and their efforts to improve the Camp Wilkerson Horse Camp.
- North Coast Trail Alliance – Chris Quackenbush
  - Provided an overview of the Alliance, a sub-chapter of IMBA's Northwest Trails Alliance, and its programs to promote and improve mountain biking options along Oregon's north coast.
- Oregon State Parks, Coast District – Dane Osis
  - Provided an overview of the North Coast District of OPRD and the trail improvements planned during the next two years, including improvements to sections of the Oregon Coast Trail.

- Tillamook Estuaries Partnership – Lisa Phipps
  - Provided an overview of the estuaries partnership efforts to conserve and restore the five Tillamook County estuaries and watersheds.
- Northwest Coast Trails Coalition – Tessa Scheller and Jon Burpee
  - Provided an overview of their efforts to cooperatively advocate and build community trails.
  - Detailed some of their trail projects and programs, including the Lewis and Clark National Historic Park’s Fort to Sea Trail.
  - Expressed an interest in partnering with all trail users and continuing to build a relationship with OPRD and other public land managers.
- Oregon Department of Transportation – Senior Regional Planner for Area 1
  - Discussed some of the traffic concerns impacting hikers and cyclists, and ODOT’s plans to improve those areas.
- Tillamook County Parks – Director of Tillamook County Parks
  - Advised that their parks and trails programs are in their infancy, and she appreciated the opportunity to hear of the achievements and struggles of other entities. She will also follow up directly with some of those attending the meeting.

\* Presentations are limited to 10-minutes unless prior authorization is received.

11:30 PM Lunch

12:30 PM Unfinished business and program updates

- Scenic Bikeways Committee
  - Crooked River Scenic Bikeway
    - ORTAC concurs with the recommendation of the Scenic Bikeway Committee to designate the Crooked River Scenic Road as Scenic.
  - Committee Vacancy
    - Discussion on who would serve as the ORTAC Council Representative on the Scenic Bikeway Committee.
    - Robert Spurlock nominated Lauralee Svensgaard. Julie Chase Chick seconded the nomination.
    - Nomination carried unanimously with Lauralee Svensgaard abstaining.
- Doug Newman Awards
  - The award was discussed including current nominations, the nomination deadline and the plan to present the award at the Trails Summit in October.
- Regional and Scenic Trail Designations
  - Process review
  - The need to determine the status of all current designated trails was discussed. ORTAC will work with staff to conduct the necessary research. The pending Ridgeline Trail application is awaiting its management plan that will be completed by staff.

- Water Trail Designation Program Development
  - Discussion on how best to establish a Water Trail Designation Program as a means of helping to address the needs cited in the 2016-2025 Statewide Recreation Trails Plan.
  - Discussion on what the Oregon State Marine Board and other waterway management agencies have done recently with water trails, fees and designations.
  - Discussion on actual need for the designation. Should there be a separate and distinct designation process for water trails? Should water trails simply be considered for designation through the existing Scenic and Regional Trail Designation Program?
  - Staff will explore the potential to do so and report back to ORTAC in October.
- Funding Programs
  - Jodi Bellefeuille provided an update on the Recreational Trails Program grants, current applications and the current plan for the 2018 grant cycle.
- Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Council (OBPAC)
  - The vacancy and application process was discussed. Robert Spurlock applied as the ORTAC representative and his application is being reviewed.
  - There may be a need to discuss this situation with ODOT should Robert's application be denied.
- SCORP Committee
  - There are no updates to report.
- Oregon Trails Summit Update and Sponsorship Request
  - Lauralee Svensgaard provided an update on the planning of the Trails Summit set to take place in Bend on Oct. 27.
  - Staff presented a sponsorship request submitted to OPRD from Stephe Noll, the Summit's coordinator.
    - Staff indicated that OPRD was comfortable with ORTAC funding the Summit at the maximum level of \$5,000.
    - Following a discussion on the sponsorship levels and benefits, Robert made a motion to fund the Summit at the \$5,000 level, with the assurance that OPRD would get top sponsorship honors, including presenting the Doug Newman Award during the Summit's lunch. Rod seconded the motion.
    - Motion carried unanimously.
  - ORTAC representation on the Summit planning committee was discussed
    - Since Lauralee was already on the Summit planning committee the suggestion was made that she transition from citizen volunteer on the planning committee to ORTAC representative. Robert nominated Lauralee to serve as the ORTAC representative on the Trail Summit Planning Committee. Julie seconded the nomination.
    - Nomination carried unanimously with Lauralee Svensgaard abstaining.
    - It was also pointed out that Robert Spurlock is also serving on the Summit planning committee, representing Metro.

2:30 PM Break

2:45 PM New Business

- ORTAC Member expectations
  - Attendance, residency and other council expectation were discussed.
  - Staff indicated that a draft bylaws document was being developed and would be shared with the Council via Basecamp.
  - Present members agreed that if an ORTAC member moves out of the district they were selected to represent, they may complete their term on the Council, and, as appropriate, may re-apply for ORTAC but only as a representative of the district where they currently live.
  - Also agreed is that every effort should be made by members to attend all ORTAC public meetings. Two absences in a row not related to hardship circumstances should warrant a warning. Three absences in a year may warrant dismissal.
- Upcoming District Vacancies
  - In November 2017, three ORTAC members' terms will expire: 1 coastal representative, and Districts 2 and 5. Coastal representative, Julie Chase Chick has submitted an email expressing her desire to serve another term; Becky Wolf, representing District 5, cited health issues precluding her from serving another term; and Joe Kresse, representing District 2, has indicated he would like to serve another term.
- ORTAC Members' handbook
  - Discussion on the need for a handbook on ORTAC member responsibilities.
  - Handbook should include basic information, guidance and bylaws, which would address terms, term limits, attendance, relocations during a council member's term, etc.
- How are we to define "Advisory?"
  - A discussion stemming from actions taken at the previous meeting in Newberg, generated a need by the Council to explore the intent of the word "advisory" as it relates to the Oregon Recreation Trails Advisory Council.
  - Discussions with previous members of ORTAC suggests in the past members were selected for and were encouraged to meet with elected officials in order to advocate for trails.
  - Given that ORTAC's history and other guiding documentation are lost or no longer accessible, the members feel it is important to explore how we might work with ORPD to screen, advise and otherwise engage in advocacy in coordination with OPRD staff and the commission for the benefit of Oregon's trails.
  - This topic was merely touched upon at the end of a long day. Discussions will continue.

5:30PM Adjourn

6:00 PM Historic tour of downtown Astoria

7:00 PM Dinner

## **Action Items**

- Touch base with Phillip Richards on designation status and the need for a trails management plan – David Stipe.
  - Prepare Trails Management plan for the Ridgeline Trail for City of Eugene – David Stipe.
  - Explore the potential to designation water trails through the existing Scenic and Regional Trail Designation Programs.
  - Revised draft of basic bylaws and post to Basecamp for discussion – David Stipe.
  - Review previous Parks Commission meetings to create a list of designated trails and their designation dates – Becky Wolf.
  - Update OPRD logo on All ORTAC forms – OPRD Staff.
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## **Saturday, July 22, 2017 – 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

- Fort Stevens – Fort to Sea Trail Tour – Jon Burpee