
Upper Nehalem Watershed Council

Meeting Minutes

Call to order

A meeting of the Upper Nehalem Watershed Council was held at the UNWC office on August 22, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chairman, Wade Bullier. Attendees included: Wade Bullier, Corie Aiuto, Susan Schmidlin, Rick Osborne, Jeremy Sapp, Brenda Lisle, Maggie Peyton, and Susan Spicer Pond.

Approval of minutes

A motion was made by Wade Bullier and seconded by Susan Schmidlin that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as submitted. The motion passed.

Reports

1. Brenda Lyle thanked Maggie Peyton for the tour she gave her of some of UNWC's LWD and BDA projects. Brenda stated that she was very impressed and now had a better understanding of the watershed projects.
2. Corrie Aiuto, of Aiuto Designs, gave an on-line, in-depth presentation and tour of the updated and revised UNWC website, URL: unwc.nehalem.org. She demonstrated each of the "buttons" on the website and explained how they functioned and how they were related to the others. An impressive addition is the six-minute WSC video titled "Nehalem: A Wild Salmon Stronghold" that is imbedded in the home page. She also explained that the Project and Reports buttons are under construction, and that the Donate button still needs some work. Since the updates, there has been one valid response from the "Contact Us" button. Corrie is hoping to add more blog stories, increase the gallery page and add the Board meeting minutes.

Corrie stated that she and Maggie have been looking for a web manager to keep up with the various website updates that occur routinely, which are not performed by Go Daddy, the domain host, or Word Press, who supports the website framework. They have found several options, but have not chosen a company yet.

Corrie pointed out that she could always use stories and photos from the Board members that pertain to the various projects.

Corrie's presentation was followed by an enthusiastic discussion, with much praise to Corrie for all of her hard work on the website. Some of the suggestions from the Board included: making the "Donate" section include multiple options for payment, as well as adding the "donate" option to more areas; adding a "thank you" section that lists donors. It was decided that the recent donation of \$1,000 by the Fishhawk Ecological Foundation, should be added to the website. Rick Osborne will write the copy for that insertion.

3. Susan Spicer Pond presented the financial report. Susan pointed out that the reason the Executive Director's salary was at 94% spent was because of the pay back of back monies owed to the ED, which were paid from that line item. See UNWC Statement of Cash Flows and Supplement for checking and saving account balances.
4. Executive Director, Maggie Peyton, reported that all of the projects still in progress are on schedule. The repairs to the Upper Oak Ranch crossing were started this week, along with the necessary repairs to the lower crossing. She advised that OWEB will only pay for the repairs to the Upper crossing, but that Columbia County will pay for the lower crossing repairs.

Maggie further reported that as of this summer UNWC has completed 62 LWD's and 30 BDA's. She also stated that the Clear Creek project grant cost share with Weyerhaeuser is in the planning stages. She is also working on outlines for proposed new project grants.

Maggie reminded the Board of her upcoming sabbatical which is from August 31 through October 5.

Unfinished business

1. Rick Osborne shared an update on the repair work going on at Fishhawk Lake this summer. He indicated that the Lake had been drawn down and the repair work was progressing as planned. There was discussion as to which fish species might currently be burrowed in the mud and which would have passed on downstream in the drain of the lake.
2. It was decided prior to the meeting to go ahead and rent Claudia, the Fish, and participate in the Vernonia Salmon Festival again this year, on October 5th. Maggie reported that Steven Sorbets will pick up and return Claudia. The fees have been paid and the Certificate of Insurance ordered.
3. Jeremy Sapp has arranged for a speaker on the topic of aerial spraying. He will try to confirm for the September meeting. Wade is still trying to make contact with Dave Shaw, of OSU, to speak to us later in the fall.

New Business

The first draft of the FY 19-20 budget was presented for discussion by Susan Spicer Pond and Maggie Peyton. There was general discussion about some of the line items. The proposed budget is \$4,083 less than last year. Two suggestions by Jeremy Sapp were to (1) move the extra \$200 from the rent line item to the Outreach/Events/Marketing line item and (2) to give the ED a salary increase, as she hasn't received one for several years. The Board was verbally in favor of that, but a vote was not taken.

Wade Bullier said he already had a cost of living formula that he would use to formulate a reasonable wage increase. He will work on that and present a proposed raise for the next meeting.

Wade also noted that it's possible that with the advent of a new school superintendent, that our current office rental agreement of \$550 per month may change. Wade will follow up with the school district.

The Board will try to finalize the new budget at the next meeting and vote on it, as well.

Announcements

The next meeting will be at the UNWC office at 5:30 p.m. at the UNWC office.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 7:35 p.m.

Susan Spicer Pond, Secretary, Pro Tem,
in Sye Laird's Absence

Date of approval