COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE COMMISSION

MEETING AGENDA – February 14, 2017

Fisher's Landing Transit Center, Rose F. Besserman Community Room
3510 SE 164th Avenue, Vancouver, Washington

9:00 a.m. Committee Meetings
  • Outreach
  • Communications

10:00 a.m. Call to Order and Roll

10:05 a.m. Welcome: Jeanne Stewart, Clark County Commissioner

10:10 a.m. Approval of Minutes for December 13, 2016 Commission Meeting

10:15 a.m. Opportunity for Treaty Tribe Nations to Address Commission
As part of the Government-to-Government consultation process the Commission welcomes input from treaty tribe members on any issue on the agenda and any other matters.

10:20 a.m. Public Comment *

10:30 a.m. Action Item: Public Rulemaking Hearing on New Rule Adopting Legal Descriptions for Urban Areas * -- Commission Planner Jason Hildreth and Commission Counsel Jeff Litwak will present the final legal descriptions for urban areas designated in the National Scenic Area Act and the proposed rule adopting the legal descriptions and discussing their use. The Commission will conduct a public hearing and vote on the proposed rule. A copy of the proposed rule is available on the Commission’s website. The Commission published notice of the proposed rule and rulemaking hearing in the Washington State Register (WSR No. 16-24) and the Oregon Bulletin (Vol. 56, No. 1, Jan. 2017).

11:15 a.m. Executive Director’s Report
  • Gorgeous Night Out in Olympia February 15, 2017 and in Salem March 9, 2017
  • Status of hiring a new NSA Planner
  • American Planning Association meeting in Hood River on March 17, 2017
  • Update on the 2017-2019 Budget Process

11:45 a.m. Committee Reports: Outreach and Communication Committees will present information about the outcomes from the morning discussions. Other committees may also provide updates as needed

12:00 p.m. U.S. Forest Service NSA Manager’s Report: Lynn Burditt

12:15 p.m. LUNCH

1:00 p.m. Workshop Item: Scoping for Management Plan Review * -- Commission staff will present preliminary results of its two January 2017 community listening sessions held in Hood River, OR and North Bonneville, WA, for the “Gorge2020” Management Plan Review. The Commission invites persons who were unable to attend the community meetings to offer comments at this meeting. The Commission may have questions of staff but will not deliberate toward a decision on items to be addressed during the scoping phase of the Management Plan Review.

2:00 p.m. Other Business

2:15 p.m. Executive Session: The Commission will meet in Executive Session pursuant to Commission Rule 350-11-006(1)(g) to consult with its Counsel concerning its legal rights and duties in current litigation.

3:15 p.m. Adjourn
NOTE: The times listed on the agenda are approximate. The chair of the Commission reserves the opportunity to change the order and time of the items if earlier agenda items run long or to accommodate invited speakers’ schedules.

If you have a disability that requires any special materials, services, or assistance, please contact us so we may arrange for appropriate accommodations: Columbia River Gorge Commission, PO Box 730, White Salmon, WA 98672  Phone 509-493-3323, Fax: 509-493-2229, e-mail: info@gorgecommission.org, http://www.GorgeCommission.org

GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
The Commission welcomes your input and offers the following guidelines for making your comments the most effective. If you wish to speak to the Commission during the public comment period or to address one of the agenda items marked for public input, please carefully and completely fill out a sign-up sheet clearly indicating which item or items in you wish to participate. Please respect the Commission meeting by handing your completed sheet and any written testimony or other documents to the Commission’s Assistant prior to the start of the public comment on that item(s). The Commission’s Assistant sits at the end of the side table closest to the audience.

NOTE: The chair reserves the right to not to hear comments if a comment sign-up sheet is incomplete or illegible.

Be courteous and professional.
Your message is best received if it has a neutral and professional tone.
Address the issues and facts that are of interest to you, not personalities.

Effective use of public comment time.
All speakers will be offered three (3) minutes to express their thoughts. The Chair may announce a change in a meeting’s time limits in order to keep the meeting on schedule.

Plan your speaking points in advance to help ensure a clear message for the Commission to hear. The points you are making will have the most impact if you can ensure their accuracy. Organize your thoughts in the following manner: your Point, Reasoning, an Example of your point, and Summary of your point. The Commission strives to use this P.R.E.S. model in its own discussions and will be listening for these parts of your message.

Please be respectful of your time so that others may also have an opportunity to speak.

Submitting written comments.
If you would like your comments entered into the record, please bring a printed original for the record. If you like you may email your comments to the Commission prior to the meeting, or bring 15 printed copies to the meeting. Your written comments may contain more information and detail than your oral public comments.

Thank you again for commenting on issues important to you. We appreciate your interest the future of the National Scenic Area and the time and thought you put into your comments.