Call to Order and Roll

Welcome: Paul Koch, General Manager, Port of Cascade Locks

Approval of Minutes for December 11, 2018 and January 22, 2019 Commission Meetings

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.

Public Comment *

Joanna Kaiserman, Land Use Planner, and Krystyna U. Wolniakowski, Executive Director, will present a progress report on the Economic Vitality Work Group (EVWG) along with their suggested edits to the Management Plan chapter on Economic Development as provided by the EVWG. Staff created the work group to discuss and provide input on potential edits to the existing chapter text, the role of the Gorge Commission in fulfilling the two purposes of the National Scenic Area Act, economic development throughout the Gorge generally, and what gaps the Management Plan can address. The Commission may discuss the suggested edits and next steps but will not vote on the them at this meeting. The Commission invites public comment on the proposed edits.

Information Item: "Gorge 2020” Recreation Focus Topic: U.S. Forest Service staff and Aiden Forsi, Land Use Planner, Gorge Commission, will provide an introduction and overview of the recreation chapter in the current Management Plan.

Executive Director’s Report: Krystyna U. Wolniakowski will provide updates on:
  • FY 2019-2021 Budget Update and Legislative Outreach
  • Gorgeous Night Out Events in Olympia and Salem
  • “Gorge 2020” Natural Resources Technical Team Next Steps

U.S. Forest Service NSA Manager’s Report
Lynn Burditt will provide an update on Forest Service activities in the National Scenic Area.

Information Item: Report on the Gorge Commission’s Compliance Processes
Krystyna U. Wolniakowski, Executive Director, and Jeff Litwak, Legal Counsel, will present a report on how the staff handles compliance in the National Scenic Area. Persons attending this presentation may ask clarifying questions during the presentation. The Commission will not take public comment on the report at this meeting. However, there will be a follow-up meeting scheduled in 2019 where public comment will be invited.

Other Business
2:45 p.m.  Executive Session
The Commission will hold an executive session pursuant to Commission Rule 350-11-006(1)(g) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of the Commission with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

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.

Meeting materials and audio will be available on our website at http://www.gorgecommission.org/about-crgc/commission-meetings.

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, Box 730, White Salmon, WA 98672, Phone: 509-493-3323, Fax: 509-493-2229, email: 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.