

Columbia River Gorge Commission

Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2018

Skamania Lodge
1131 SW Skamania Lodge Way, Stevenson, Washington

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bridget Bailey (late)
Bowen Blair
Don Bonker
Lynn Burditt
Keith Chamberlain
Sondra Clark
Lorrie DeKay
Dan Ericksen
Robert Liberty
Antone Minthorn
Rodger Nichols
Janet Wainwright
Damon Webster

MEMBERS ABSENT

none

STAFF PRESENT

Nancy Andring, Administrative Analyst
Bryce Guske, Land Use Planner - Klickitat County
Joanna Kaiserman, Land Use Planner
Jeff Litwak, Counsel
Krystyna Wolniakowski, Executive Director
Aiden Forsi, PSU Hatfield Fellow
Mike Schrankel, GIS Specialist

AUDIENCE PRESENT

Carr, Geoff
Cornelison, Peter – Friends of the Columbia Gorge
Garcia, Linda
Greenlee, Paul – City of Washougal
Harris, Steven – City of The Dalles
Helfen, Morai – US Forest Service
Keister, Larry – Port of Camas-Washougal
Klaas, Andrea – Port of the Dalles
Lang, Michael – Friends of the Columbia Gorge
Lingley, Terra – Historic Columbia River Highway, ODOT
Rittenhouse, Ryan – Friends of the Columbia Gorge
Repar, Mary
Seehafer, Bradlee
Slockish, Wilbur

Steinke, Alona
Steinke, Don

Others were present during the day.

Call to Order and Roll (10:07 AM)

Chair DeKay called the meeting to order and Nancy Andring called roll.

Welcome (10:08 AM) Mary Repar, Stevenson resident, welcomed the Commission.

Approval of Minutes for September 11, 2018 Commission meetings (10:10 AM)

Commissioner Nichols moved to adopt the September 11, 2018 meeting minutes. Commissioner Blair seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Opportunity for Treaty Tribe Nations to address Commission (10:10 AM)

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. No treaty tribe members spoke to the Commission.

Opportunity for Public Comment (10:11 AM)

The following provided public comment to the Commission on items not listed on the agenda:

- Larry Keister, resident of Skamania County. Encouraged the Commission to give more direction and help to the Executive Director.
- Paul Greenlee, City Council member of Washougal. Encouraged more enforcement.
- Don Steinke, resident of Vancouver. Urged staff to exercise full authority on enforcement issues.
- Mary Repar, resident of Stevenson. Expressed concerns about water and other resources in the Gorge.
- Alona Steinke, resident of Vancouver. Urged Commission to pursue enforcement action.
- Michael Lang, Friends of the Columbia Gorge. Addressed the Commission's budget and those of County Planning departments to implement the NSA ordinance considering recent state elections.
- Linda Garcia, resident of Vancouver. Commented on an effort to ban fossil fuel transport in the Gorge.

Action Item: Rulemaking Hearing on Amendments to Commission Rule 350-10 (10:32 AM)

Jeff Litwak presented amendments to Commission Rule 350-10 to adopt legal boundary descriptions for the exterior boundary of the National Scenic Area and the special management areas, and Mike Schrankel showed the GIS mapping of the legal boundary descriptions. (see Attachment A)

Public Comment:

Michael Lang, Friends of the Columbia Gorge. Question about why state rulemaking is being used when this is a federal statute. Jeff Litwak responded.

Commissioner Liberty motioned to approve the boundary descriptions. Commissioner Ericksen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Information Item: Gorge2020 Update (11:08 AM)

Staff provided an update on recent work on the Land Uses & Development Review and Urban Area Policy focus topics already underway for Gorge2020 (see Attachment B). This was informational only. Staff did not request guidance from the Commission.

Action Item: Election of Officers for 2019 (11:40 AM)

The Commission elected a Chair and Vice-Chair for the 2019 calendar year. Commissioner Nichols motioned to suspend Robert's Rules for election nominations. Commissioner Chamberlain seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Commissioner Liberty nominated Commissioner DeKay as chair. Commissioner Blair nominated Commissioner Liberty as vice-chair. In a unanimous voice vote, the Commission elected Commissioner DeKay as chair and Commissioner Liberty as vice-chair.

Lunch (11:50PM)

Public Comment (1:04 PM)

Wilbur Slockish, CRITFC: Urged Commission to consider that the Treaty Tribes' maps are the only accurate maps. He urged the Commission to investigate how government agencies have acquired land in the Gorge.

Information Item: Gorge2020 Scenic Resources Technical Review (1:10 PM)

U.S. Forest Service and Gorge Commission staff introduced the Scenic Resources Technical Update Topic (see Attachment C). The agencies provided an overview of how Scenic Resources are addressed in the Management Plan, and a summary of public scoping comments relevant to scenic resources.

Executive Director's Report (1:44 PM) Director Wolniakowski reported on:

- Four Treaty Tribes meeting with the Gorge Commissioners
- Staffing updates

National Scenic Area Manager's Report (1:58 PM) Commissioner Burditt reported on:

- Prescribed burns
- Visual monitoring at Sandy River Delta
- Trail reports and updates trail re-building
- Data on visitors this year to USFS land in NSA
- Overview of Co-Visioning project

Other Business (2:28 PM)

No other business.

Executive Session (2:38 PM)

The Commission held 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.

Following the executive session, the Chair reopened the meeting and announced that the Commission made no decisions during executive session.

Adjourn (3:09 PM)

Approved 12.11.18

