

Columbia River Gorge Commission

Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2016

Gresham City Hall

1333 NW Eastman Parkway, Gresham, Oregon

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Gorham Blaine
Bowen Blair
Don Bonker
Lynn Burditt
Lorrie DeKay
Dan Ericksen (10:10am)
Robert Liberty
Carl McNew
Rodger Nichols
Janet Wainwright

MEMBERS ABSENT

Keith Chamberlain
Antone Minthorn
Damon Webster

STAFF PRESENT

Nancy Andring, Administrative Analyst
Ray Joseph, Planner
Jeff Litwak, Counsel
Riley Marcus, Klickitat County Planner working with the Gorge Commission
Krystyna Wolniakowski, Executive Director
Katie Skakel

AUDIENCE PRESENT

Barber, Adam – Multnomah County Planning
Barney, Casey – Yakama Nation Cultural Resource Program
Bemis, Shane – Mayor, City of Gresham
Chase, Jim - Friends of the Columbia Gorge (FOCG)
Corbett, Catherine - Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership
Gorman, Kevin – FOCG
Hensey, Allison - Director, Willamette River Initiative at the Meyer Memorial Trust
Irish, Sherri
Keister, Larry
Lang, Michael – FOCG
Leon, Peter – Wishram Community Council
Lumley, Paul - CRITFC
Mackness, Ben
McCoy, Steve – FOCG
Pitt, Louie – Warms Springs Tribe
Redman, Scott – Puget Sound Partnership

Repar, Mary
Stallman, Kristen – Oregon Department of Transportation

Others were present during the day.

AGENDA

Committee Meetings (8:30 AM)

- **Assessment**

Call to Order and Roll (10:00 AM)

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

Welcome from Shane Bemis, Mayor, City of Gresham (10:05 AM)

Shane Bemis, mayor of the City of Gresham, welcomed the Gorge Commission and provided remarks.

Approval of Minutes for April 10, 2016 Commission meetings (10:06 AM)

Commissioner Nichols moved to adopt the April 10, 2016 meeting minutes. Commissioner Wainwright seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Opportunity for Treaty Tribe Nations to address Commission (10:08 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.

Louie Pitt from the Warm Springs Tribe, Paul Lumley from CRITFC, and Casey Barney from the Yakama Nation Cultural Resources Program addressed the Columbia River Gorge Commission.

Opportunity for Public Comment (10:26 AM)

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

- Michael Lang, Conservation Director for Friends of the Columbia Gorge, discussed the Army Corps of Engineer's decision to deny the permit for the Pacific International Terminals. [\(see attachment A\)](#)
- Kristian Stallman, ODOT, discussed the Historic Columbia River Highway 100th anniversary ceremony and the pilot transit program for the waterfall corridor along the Historic Columbia River Highway. Commissioner Bonker commented about the anniversary ceremony. Commissioner Liberty had a question about the data being collected during the transit study. Commissioner Nichols had a question about the gate at Multnomah Falls during the ceremony. Commissioner Blaine asked about the transit plan to connect transit to Hood River.
- Mary Repar discussed the VSI project.

Puget Sound Vital Sign Indicators (10:25 AM)

Scott Redman, Director, Science and Evaluation for the Puget Sound Partnership, presented their use of Vital Sign Indicators to help assess the health of Puget Sound and the development of the "State of the Sound 2015" report.

Break (11:10 AM)

Willamette River Report Card-2015 (11:20 AM)

Allison Hensey, Director, Willamette River Initiative at the Meyer Memorial Trust, presented their report developed by a team of experts who identified key indicators to capture a current picture of river health against which to measure future changes. (see attachment B)

Lunch (12:10PM)

LUNCH: Special Presentation: "Habitat Restoration Targets for the Lower Columbia River Ecosystem – How Much is Enough?" Catherine Corbett, Chief Scientist, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership presented her report. (see attachment C)

ACTION ITEM: Consistency Review of Multnomah County Ordinance No. 1232 Relating to Marijuana Business Review Criteria (1:24 PM)

The Gorge Commission reviewed Multnomah County Ordinance No. 1232, relating to marijuana businesses, for consistency with the Management Plan for the National Scenic Area. (see attachment D) The Ordinance specifies that marijuana businesses are not permitted in the GMA or SMA portions of the National Scenic Area. Jeff Litwak, Counsel, presented the staff report.

Public Comment (1:25)

Michael Lang, Director of Conservation, Friends of the Columbia River Gorge – commented relating to the marijuana businesses review criteria.

Commissioner Bonker moved to approve the ordinance, Commissioner Blaine seconded the motion, with the understanding that the commission will review the motion if the federal law changes. Commissioner Bonker removed the motion.

Ben Mackaness – Discussed the marijuana business review criteria. He stated that there are 1528 grow sites existing in the NSA.

Gorge Commission Retreat (1:58pm)

Chairman Bowen Blair discussed a proposed Commission/Staff retreat in June 2016 to develop a strategy and plan for fiscal year 2017 priorities. Commissioners Wainwright, Burditt and Liberty commented on the retreat

Committee Reports (2:07 PM)

Assessment Committees presented information about the outcomes from the morning discussions, as well as updates from other committees if needed. Commissioner Liberty provided an update on the Assessment Committee. Commissioners Nichols commented on the report. Commissioners Nichols, Wainwright, Liberty, McNew, Blaine and Ericksen commented on the reports.

Gorge Commission Executive Director's Report (2:14 PM) Director Wolniakowski reported on:

- Principal Planner and GIS/Planner hiring updates
- Website re-design update
- Memaloose State Park update – No update
- Tribal Listen Session report
- VSI update
- Urban Area Boundaries scope of work update
- FY 2016-2017 Budget update

Executive Director Performance Measures for 2016-2017 (2:33 PM)

The Commission discussed the goals and performance measures for evaluating the Executive Director in spring 2017. (see attachment E) Commissioners Nichols, Ericksen, and McNew commented on the performance document. The Commissioners generally concurred with the performance measures. Mary Repar commented on the performance goals for the 2016-17.

Transportation Priorities in the Gorge using criteria for prioritizing the proposed projects in the National Scenic Area (2:40 PM)

Krystyna U. Wolniakowski reported on meetings held with Washington and Oregon transportation partners and discussed the “lens” by which the Commission may evaluate transportation project priorities in the NSA. (see attachment F) Motion to approve the memo, motion from Commissioner Nichols, seconded by Commissioner McNew. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Mary Repar commented on the transportation priorities in the NSA. Franci Royce commented on the Historic Columbia River Highway and the HCRH collaborative project. Comments from commissioners Nichols, Burditt, Ericksen, McNew, Wainwright and DeKay

National Scenic Area Manager’s Report, (3:06 PM) Commissioner Burditt reported on: (see attachment G)

- Dog Mountain transit program
- Fire season
- Water use and “poop” at Multnomah Falls
- HCRH trail
- Eagle Creek Recreation area 100 anniversary
- OSHA review
- Accident on trail

Commissioner McNew commented about safety.

Other Business (3:24 PM)

No other business was discussed.

Adjourn (3:24 PM)

Approved 7.12.16