

Pacific City/Woods Citizen Advisory Committee (PC/W CAC)

Minutes of the PC/W CAC Meeting on September 15, 2014, 6:30 pm
Kiawanda Community Center, 34600 Cape Kiwanda Drive
Pacific City, Oregon

APPROVED 11/17/14

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm.

1. **Self-introductions – Anne Price – Chair-Elect** - Seventeen people attended the meeting and introduced themselves. Officers present included Ilean Rouse – Past-Chair; David Yamamoto - Treasurer; Anne Price - Chair-elect; and Bud Miller – Secretary.
2. **Guest Speakers – Dan Shiveley & Dave Heller, Tillamook – Nestucca Fish Passage Partnership - Restoring the Nestucca River to its Natural Habitat to Encourage Anadromous Fish Passage** – Dan and Dave are members of the Executive Team of a consortium of government and private entities working to remove obstructions to the passage of various fish species. Mr. Shiveley is a retired US Forest Service employee, and Mr. Heller is currently employed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. There is no website set up yet for this project, but Dave can be contacted at dan_shively@fws.gov. Local resident Doug Olson is a member of the group and he is another source of additional information. Together Dave and Dan summarized efforts over the last forty years to improve fish habitat in the waterways of the Northwest and across the country as well. In the 1990's it was recognized that more intensive effort was needed to repair past damage to the rivers and streams. One reason for this was the appreciation that not just the placement of culverts but also the sizes used had been in error in many locations. This led to an effort to replace under-sized culverts (as much as 90 % of those in place) to eliminate the problem of flow rates during certain times of the year which had been identified as too high to allow safe passage of adults upstream and juveniles downstream. New studies also showed that while installation of the larger culverts was expensive, it resulted in many more instances of the roads being more durable and not washed out in high water volume events, saving many repair dollars.
The current project is a major shift in the approach to working on habitat restoration and road protection. Past efforts concentrated on individual sites identified as high priority. But now the emphasis is to look at the problem at a watershed scale. In addition, past work was usually carried out by each individual agency and/or landowner. The new approach is based on developing strategic partnerships and identifying critical watersheds for the first efforts and investments. Current emphasis is focused on the Tillamook-Nestucca Watershed, partly because of the high level of identified need for work, and also because of the availability of the data needed to evaluate where to do the work. This pilot project began two years ago, and they are now setting up a communication strategy to inform and public and to use in fund raising.

The new approach is also a major shift in how to prioritize the spending of money as it becomes available. Each obstruction (culvert, dam, or tidal gate) in the watershed is identified and the length of the waterway that is affected by treating the individual site is also calculated. In addition, average cost estimates for various projects (high/medium/low, and by ownership, etc.) are assigned to each obstruction. Then, using a new AMASS computer model and given a specific sum for funding, the most gain that may be accomplished is calculated. The result is a guide to where and in what order barriers should be replaced, with prioritization also by local partners. Using this new approach, it has been possible to estimate the amount of funding needed to accomplish all necessary treatments. For example, in the pilot project watershed, considering there are approximately 270 barriers on 240-50 miles of waterways, total cost is calculated to be about \$140 million. However, the model also allows estimate that it would cost about \$34 million to accomplish 95% of the work that is needed, and shows how the work should be prioritized. While all barriers will have to be addressed eventually, this methodology allows for maximizing the effectiveness of the funding available year by year, and across an entire state or region. The present goal is to obtain the \$34 million mentioned above by 2025.

The Tillamook-Nestucca watershed pilot project currently has more than twenty partners. As the new approach has developed, “side-effects” have been identified, including positive outcomes to economics/jobs, improved infrastructure, and broader ecosystem habitat benefits. After the presentation by Dan and Dave, there was a short question and answer period. Much of this reflected concerns by existing watershed restoration groups about how their participation will be integrated into this new approach. It was stated that the hope is that this will be more efficient than past practices and that the net effect will be more money available overall for getting restoration work done.

3. **Minutes of the PCW CAC Meeting on August 16, 2014 and July 21, 2014 – Bud Miller – Secretary** – Copies of these notes had been furnished previously to all members, and after a brief discussion the minutes for both meetings were accepted by a unanimous voice vote of the members present.
4. **Treasurer’s Report – David Yamamoto – Treasurer** - David reported that the current balance for the CAC account is \$317.34. The report was accepted by a unanimous voice vote of the members present. Ilean Rouse reminded everyone of the request for donations in support of covering expenses for the CAC such as the PO Box rent and bank fees.

5. **Committee Reports –**

a. **Land Use Committee – David Yamamoto**

1. **Letter from FEMA** – As mentioned below, the new requirement by NOAA for FEMA to implement ESA-related requirements to all human activity in the floodway are impacting current efforts to end the moratorium on building in the Nestucca River floodplain. While the State of Oregon and others have commented on this situation, because it is a matter between two federal agencies there is no provision for public comment on this issue at this time. The possibility that requirements of Measures 37 and 49 might be activated by implementation of new restrictions is an important factor that will have to be considered. Mr. Yamamoto shared his private opinion that FEMA may be using the County building moratorium as a state-wide test case for this new requirement.
 2. **Nestucca River Building Permit Moratorium** – The action of the Board of Commissioners in May to impose this moratorium had an effective period of 120 days. Last week the BOC met to discuss the status of this moratorium and to extend the effective period. This was necessary in part because of the letter received from FEMA with questions about the assumptions in the modeling used by the contractor for the study of the Nestucca River. But most important of their questions is the first item they listed, which states that the County must furnish proof of compliance with the Endangered Species Act before FEMA can consider the request in the Letter of Map Revision (LOMR). It appears that the County was unaware of this new approach by FEMA, and therefore had not considered the impact on getting the LOMR approved.
 3. **Ferguson Conditional Use** – This is Request CU-14-04(a) for allowing a Cottage Industry with a retail gift shop at 33485 Cape Kiwanda Drive in Pacific City (Tax lot 6201 of Section 24AA, Township 4 South, Range 11 West). The notice from Tillamook County is dated 9/10, with comments to be received no later than 9/17. After it was summarized in the meeting, there was a brief discussion about the request, with several members stating concerns about things like the creep of commercial use into residential areas, increased congestion, safety for pedestrians in the area, and other traffic concerns. Since this notice was not sent to the membership and had not been reviewed by the Land Use Committee, it was decided the only action to be taken would be that David Yamamoto would discuss it at the All CAC Chairs meeting on 9/16/14.
- b. **Community Plan Review – Ilean Rouse** – No new information.
- c. **Lighting Committee – Ilean Rouse** – No new information.

6. **Old Business –**

- a. **Territorial Sea Plan – David Yamamoto** – The State continues to delay action on the lawsuit that is pending, and it maybe mid-year of 2015 before it is heard by the three judge panel.

- b. **Cape Kiawanda Stakeholders Meeting** – No response has been received to Sean Carlton’s request to be included in these meetings. The next one we know of will be sometime in October. Again, the CAC is planning to participate in these discussions to broaden the scope of what TLT-related projects are being considered in Pacific City and Woods.
 - c. **Transient Lodging Tax – Doug Olson** – They are down to two candidates for TLT Director. The TAC will be meeting next week for final selection, and a budget for spending the estimated \$2+ million will be prepared in the next few weeks.
 - d. **PC/W CAC Area of Influence** – No discussion of this topic.
7. **New Business** – None was brought up.
8. **Announcements** –
- Tillamook County has issued a Notice of Public Hearing concerning Ordinance Amendment Request OA-14-01. This is for amending the County Comprehensive Plan to include the Neskowin Coastal Erosion Adaptation Plan. Hearings will be on October 8 and 29, 2014, beginning at 10:30 am, and will be held at the Courthouse in BOC Meeting Rooms A & B.
 - The Nestucca Valley Community Alliance will hold its annual meeting on October 11, 2014. It will be at the Central Building in Pacific City and begins at 10:00 am. Topics include election of officers.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Please see our website at www.pacificcitywoodscpac.org for additional information.

CAC's provide local citizens an opportunity to interact with their neighbors on local land use and other issues that impact their surrounding environment and are a valuable tool for decision-makers in formulating policies, rules and ordinances for land use and other community issues. This is a public meeting and public comment may be presented.

For further information contact Sean Carlton – CAC Chair
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