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Coordinated by:

**Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area  
Management Committee**  
*Patt Opdyke, Chair*

**Metro**

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232  
(503) 797-1515

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**Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee Meeting**

Note Date Change:  
Tuesday, December 7, 2004  
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Metro Regional Center, 600 N E Grand Ave., Room 270  
Portland, Oregon 97232

**AGENDA**

|  |                      |                |
|--|----------------------|----------------|
| Welcome, introductions                           | (Opdyke)             | 5:30 - 5:35 pm |
| Review October meeting notes                     | (Opdyke)             | 5:35 – 5:40 pm |
| St. Johns Landfill beneficial uses -<br>finalize | (Opdyke/<br>Stewart) | 5:40 – 6:15 pm |
| Metro Parks & Greenspaces<br>reorganization      | (Stewart)            | 6:15 – 6:30 pm |

NOTE: The Management Committee may choose to take additional time to discuss the Parks Dept. reorganization and implications for Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. Management Committee members should be prepared to stay beyond 6:30 p.m., if necessary.

**Summary Meeting Notes  
Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee  
December 7, 2004**

**In attendance:**

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Patt Opdyke, Chair * | North Portland Neighborhoods              |
| Pam Arden *          | 40-Mile Loop Land Trust                   |
| Carrie Butler *      | Port of Portland                          |
| Brenda Hanke *       | St. Johns Neighborhood Assn               |
| Jim Morgan *         | Metro                                     |
| Jim Sjulín *         | Portland Bureau of Parks                  |
| Dale Svart *         | Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes            |
| Bill Egan            | Oregon Bass & Panfish Club                |
| Elaine Stewart       | Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area Manager |
| Paul Vandenberg      | Metro Solid Waste & Recycling             |
| Pat Sullivan         | Metro Regional Parks & Greenspaces        |

\* denotes voting SBLMC member

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair at the meeting start time, Jim Sjulín volunteered to act as Chair in their stead.

**Consideration of previous meeting notes**

As a quorum was not present at this time, the October meeting notes were deferred until the end of the meeting should a quorum be present then.

**St. Johns Landfill beneficial uses - finalize**

Elaine Stewart distributed the latest version of the list the Management Committee has been working on, "Evaluating Future Uses of the St. Johns Landfill", which included criteria for evaluating future uses as well as activities to be encouraged and activities to be discouraged. She also noted that this latest version differed somewhat from the one e-mailed to committee members recently, having received input from Paul Vandenberg of Metro's Solid Waste & Recycling Dept. since then. Changes included a reference to the landfill cover and other environmental protection systems in the section titled "Vision" and a reference to secure public access to the landfill in the bullet point labelled "Public access".

A request was made by Dale Svart to send any attachments to e-mails to him by regular mail as his computer is not able to open them. Pam Arden made the same request.

Discussion continued from previous meetings on the criteria and activities being evaluated. For members new to the committee, Elaine noted that this is an advisory document to Metro suggesting activities to be encouraged on the St. Johns Landfill. Metro needs such input from the Management Committee at this time because a Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study is being done and as part of that process beneficial uses must be identified.

Patt Opdyke arrived at this point and assumed her role as Chair. Elaine relayed comments about the document under discussion offered by committee members who were unable to attend tonight's meeting. Troy Clark noted "it looks good". Nancy Hendrickson offered some suggestions to clarify points made. Under the section "Activities to be Encouraged" she suggested adding riparian and wetland habitats to the restoration bullet.

The discussion proceeded through the document considering further revisions. Elaine emphasized that this document is not a plan, it is only feedback to the Solid Waste Dept. about what this Management Committee would foresee as reasonably likely uses in the future - short-term and long-term.

The changes to the recommended activities to be encouraged and to be discouraged in this document were approved by a unanimous vote of the committee. The revised document will be sent to committee members within the week. ***See attached copy of the final document.***

### **Metro Parks & Greenspaces reorganization**

Elaine reported on changes occurring in the Parks and Greenspaces Dept., and all of Metro, as Metro Council goes through a strategic planning process. Since his appointment as Parks Director, Jim Desmond has been considering whether or not the current department structure is the most effective or if there are better ways to deploy the staff. Parks Dept. organizational charts were distributed.

Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area has had a full-time manager dedicated to the site since 1996. In addition, there has been a .3 FTE seasonal providing operational and maintenance support. Having a full-time manager has allowed a great deal of energy to be directed to habitat restoration, to getting the water control structure implemented and being able to deal with surrounding land use issues. An area where the managerial deployment was less successful was in operations, e.g. trimming of vegetation, picking up garbage and patrolling the trail. There was not enough time to do that effectively.

There will now be an emphasis on the split between the restoration, sciences and natural resources team and the operations team. Elaine will be assigned to a new Science & Stewardship division, which will be headed by Jim Morgan, and will no longer be permanently assigned to Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. This division will be responsible for Smith & Bybee as well as all the other Metro properties. Being removed is the separation between the properties purchased under the bond measure and those that had been acquired earlier from Multnomah County. Jim Morgan and 2-1/2 staffers will be responsible for the 12,000 to 13,000 acres in the portfolio with Smith & Bybee Lakes being 2,000 acres of that total.

According to Elaine there will now be more attention paid to the ranger/patrol duties. Two rangers will be based out of the St. Johns Landfill office. Part of their daily duties will be patrolling the new facilities, including the parking lot and trails. With the new facilities coming online, with the newly completed segment of trail that the Port has put in, with the strong likelihood that additional trails will be constructed within the perimeter of the wildlife area within the next three to seven years, the additional ranger support will be needed to patrol the wildlife area.

Anticipating concerns that there will no longer be a full time manager assigned to Smith & Bybee Lakes, Elaine reminded the committee that a lot of the planned environmental and restoration projects mentioned in the Management Plan have been completed or are well under way. Reduced attention on the restoration side will be made up for by increased attention to the operations side. This may be the time when it is necessary to do that, Elaine observed.

Some of the transitions will go into effect the first of January. Elaine will continue to staff the Management Committee for the time being; Jim Morgan will continue to represent Metro as a voting member. In terms of budgeting, for the last two fiscal years, salaries for Metro staffers have been paid for out of the Regional Parks Fund, not the Smith & Bybee Lakes Trust Fund. A

likely future practice is that Metro will continue to have all the Smith & Bybee-related salaries covered by the Regional Parks Fund and to reserve interest accrued from the Smith & Bybee fund for restoration and other special projects and also to be re-invested into the Smith & Bybee fund.

### **Review October meeting notes**

The October meeting notes were accepted by the Chair as submitted.

### **Next meeting**

The Chair reminded the committee that the meeting schedule would return to its usual fourth Tuesday of the month, making the next meeting set for January 25. Future meetings will re-examine the Management Plan and how to approach it now that the short-term and long-term needs of the landfill have been considered.

### **Updates**

Carrie Butler reported that the radio tower building at Vanport Wetlands is gone now.

Elaine announced that the Smith & Bybee facilities are progressing and will likely be open to the public at the end of December.

The trails technical working group work is proceeding, although it is unclear at this time if an update will be available by the January meeting. That group agreed on a set of criteria and a scoring system for looking at different segments of potential trails. Next steps will probably focus on an entire alignment.

The meeting was adjourned.