



**METRO COUNCIL MEETING**  
Meeting Minutes  
Sept. 18, 2014  
City of Tigard, Town Hall Room

Councilors Present: Council President Tom Hughes, and Councilors Shirley Craddick, Sam Chase, Kathryn Harrington, Bob Stacey, Carlotta Collette and Craig Dirksen

Councilors Excused: None

Council President Tom Hughes called the regular council meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

**1. INTRODUCTIONS**

There were none.

**2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS**

There were none.

**3. CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 2014**

Motion:	Councilor Sam Chase moved to adopt Council Meeting Minutes for September 11, 2014.
Second:	Councilor Craig Dirksen seconded the motion.

Vote: 

Council President Hughes, and Councilors Craddick, Harrington, Chase, Dirksen, Collette and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> .
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**4. CITY OF TIGARD WELCOMING REMARKS**

Council President Hughes introduced Mayor John Cook and thanked him for hosting the Metro Council Meeting. Mayor Cook thanked the Metro Council and the citizens for coming to this meeting, as well as traveling around the region to host meetings in a variety of locations. He discussed the good working relationship between Metro and Tigard over the past two decades, especially related to parks and recreational areas.

**5. RESOLUTIONS**

5.1 **Resolution No. 14-4554**, For the Purpose of Approving 2014 Nature In Neighborhoods Restoration and Community Stewardship Grants

Motion:	Councilor Craig Dirksen moved to approve Resolution No. 14-4554.
Second:	Councilor Kathryn Harrington seconded the motion.

Council President Hughes introduced Ms. Heather Nelson Kent of Metro, who presented a staff report on the 2014 Nature In Neighborhoods Restoration and Community Stewardship Grants, which included a video on Centro Cultural, a summer grant recipient, and introduced both past and current grant recipients to discuss their projects funded by the grants.

Ms. Nelson Kent explained that the goal of the Restoration and Community Stewardship Grant Program is to award grants to projects focused on two aspects important to any project: ecological outcomes and stewardship outcomes, as well as building upon lessons learned from prior grant awards. She introduced two past grant recipients to illustrate how the grants have been successful in all of these aspects: Ms. Nikkie West from the Audubon Society of Portland and Mr. Dan Roix from the Columbia Land Trust. These two organizations developed and maintained the Backyard Habitat Certification Program.

Mr. Dan Roix, Portland-Vancouver Region Conservation Manager for the Columbia Land Trust (CLT), discussed the Backyard Habitat Certification Program, which is a partnership between CLT, Audubon Society of Portland, government agencies like Metro, and thousands of home owners around the region, to improve wildlife habitat in the urban environment.

Ms. Nikkie West, Backyard Habitat Program Coordinator for the Audubon Society of Portland, discussed how the framework of the program motivates people seeking to dig in deep and educate others. She shared a recent program success story of a woman named Layla, who signed up for the Backyard Habitat Certification Program and was certified for the silver certification for three years, before being upgraded to the gold status in the program. The program is also focused on some of the key high-priority and underserved areas that Metro has invested in. Ms. West thanked Metro for all of their support, both from the Nature In Neighborhoods Program and from the Resource, Conservation and Recycling Program. In response to Council President Hughes, Ms. West stated that the Audubon Society would welcome a conversation with Metro about expanding the program across the region to assist the Goal 5 mandates.

Ms. Nelson Kent introduced the second previous grant recipient project, Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, and project staff, Lori Prince and Laura Trunk.

Ms. Laura Trunk, Watershed Restoration Coordinator for Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, gave a brief presentation on two marsh preserves, Kingfisher Marsh and Wapato Marsh, which received Nature In Neighborhood grants. Ms. Trunk discussed the history and issues that each marsh had and the success of the restoration with the recent increase of species returning to the marsh after restoration as well as new species now in the marsh. Ms. Lori Prince, Outdoor Recreation Manager for Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, presented about the education programs including outdoor classrooms, service learning projects and day camps for children. Ms. Trunk thanked Metro for their support and offered to lead a field trip through the preserves and observe the education programs.

Council President Hughes stated that the area within 5 miles around Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve should be a target area for the Backyard Habitat Certification Program.

In response to Councilor inquiry, Ms. Trunk explained classifications of the native plants and restoration projects.

Councilor Harrington thanked Ms. Trunk and Ms. Prince for the work they do each day and for making such a great site available for the community. She requested that they make sure that the area city councilors really understand the before and after of the preserve, as it really can highlight the partnership throughout the region. Councilor Dirksen thanked Ms. Trunk and Ms. Prince for their presentation and pointed out that the restoration also positively affects the water quality, showing real tangible benefits in the region.

Ms. Nelson Kent introduced Mr. Greg Creager, Natural Resources and Trails Specialist for Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District and a Review Committee member, to talk about the decision-making process with the grants. He stated that the projects that the Review Committee found most compelling were ones with the greatest ecological benefits and greatest community engagement around nature in meaningful ways. They looked for proposals with geographical diversity of sites, strong partnerships that engaged the community (especially diverse communities), and projects that built on a history of investments by Metro and other jurisdictions over time. He thanked the Metro Council for their time and for funding these projects.

Ms. Nelson Kent read a short description of each of the projects being recommended for funding, which included the following projects and award recipients:

- Backyard Habitat Certification Program (Audubon Society of Portland and Columbia Land Trust)
- Clackamas River Confluence Restoration Project (Clackamas River Basin Council)
- Blue Heron Wetland Restoration Project (East Columbia Neighborhood Association)
- Restore Forest Park (Forest Park Conservancy)
- South Riverboat Forest Restoration Project (Friends of the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge)
- Building Community Partnerships in the Johnson Creek Watershed (Friends of Trees)
- Tryon Creek Forest Restoration Partnership (Friends of Tryon Creek)
- Johnson Creek Fish Passage Restoration (Johnson Creek Watershed Council)
- Riparian Reforestation in Johnson Creek Watershed (Johnson Creek Watershed Council)
- Lower Errol Heights Wetland and Stream Restoration Project (Portland Bureau of Environmental Services)
- Sandy River Delta Restoration (Sandy River Basin Watershed Council)
- Expanding SOLVE Volunteer Opportunities in Washington County (SOLVE)
- Community Partners Restoring Strategy Habitats in Tualatin River Basin (Tualatin Riverkeepers)
- Sturgeon Lake Restoration Project (West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District)

### ***Council discussion***

Councilors thanked the review committee for their hard work and time in reviewing the applications and recognized the organizations, staff and volunteers for their work and engagement of the community as well. Councilors also recognized the support from the region and thanked the voters who have helped fund these types of programs.

Vote:

Council President Hughes, and Councilors Craddick, Harrington, Chase, Dirksen, Collette and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 ayes, the motion passed.

**6. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

Ms. Martha Bennett provided updates on the following items:

- Status of the Willamette Falls Legacy Project
- Powell-Division Transit and Development Project comment period is open until September 19<sup>th</sup> and on Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, the comment period opened for Climate Smart Communities Scenarios Project (closes October 30<sup>th</sup>)
- Bike ride with Westside Economic Alliance, Councilor Dirksen and Jim Middaugh in the Orenco development area
- Thanks to councilors who attended the Employee Service Awards Luncheon

**7. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION**

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings or events: Oregon Transportation Policy Group meeting in Salem, Climate Smart Communities Scenarios comment period, JPACT Finance Subcommittee, and a Chinook Institute class “Resiliency in the Face of Public Discourse”.

**8. ADIJOURN**

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the regular meeting at 3:18 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on Thursday, October 2 at 2 p.m. at Metro’s Council Chamber.

Respectfully submitted,



Alexandra Eldridge, Regional Engagement & Legislative Coordinator

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF SEP. 18, 2014**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Doc. Number</b>
3.0	Minutes	9/18/14	Council Minutes for Sep. 11, 2014	91814c-01