

Agenda



Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Meeting: Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Committee (SBAC)
Date: Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020
Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Place: Metro Regional Center - Room 270
600 NE Grand Ave., Portland

5:30 p.m.	Welcome and introductions	All
5:35 p.m.	Approve November 2019 meeting minutes	Troy Clark
5:40 p.m.	Helping Hands Reentry Outreach Center: repurpose Wapato Jail	Raven Russell
6:10 p.m.	Smith and Bybee planning projects updates	Allan Schmidt
6:40 p.m.	CNRP discussion	All
7:05 p.m.	Conservation projects updates	Jonathan Soll
7:25 p.m.	Goals and next meeting agenda	All
7:30 p.m.	Adjourn	

Upcoming SBAC meetings:

Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at Metro Regional Center

For agenda/schedule information, contact Annie Toledo at 503.813.7565 or annie.toledo@oregonmetro.gov

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Meeting minutes

Smith and Bybee Advisory Committee

January 28, 2020

Committee members in attendance

Troy Clark Audubon Society of Portland (Chair)
 Carrie Butler Port of Portland (Vice Chair)
 Bill Briggs Oil Re-Refining Company
 Emily Roth Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
 Jennifer Devlin City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services
 Jonathan Soll Metro, Parks and Nature
 Patt Opdyke North Portland Neighbors
 Pat Jewett 40-Mile Loop Trust

Others in attendance

Raven Russell Helping Hands Reentry Outreach Center
 Annie Toledo Metro, Parks and Nature
 Susan Barthel Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
 Meei Lum Columbia Slough Watershed Council
 Bob Sallinger Audubon Society of Portland
 Evan Oatmen PSU student

Committee members not in attendance

Eric Tonsager Oregon Bass and Panfish Club
 Jen Levy St. Johns Neighborhood Association

WELCOME

The November 2019 meeting minutes were approved.

BYBEE LAKES HOPE CENTER (FORMER WAPATO JAIL SITE)

Raven Russell, director of data and major projects at the nonprofit Helping Hands Reentry Outreach Centers, presented on the Bybee Lakes Hope Center that will potentially be utilizing the former Wapato Jail site. This is a big change from the presentation given to the committee in August by Harsch Properties where they discussed their plans for demolishing the structure, cutting down the tree buffer and building a warehouse. Jordan Schnitzer had a change of heart and offered to allow them to use the property if they reach a 4 million dollar fundraising goal by early March. They are confident that they will reach that goal. After two operational years Jordan will discuss giving them the property.

Raven gave an overview of the organization which has been around for nearly 20 years and has 11 facilities in Clatsop, Yamhill, Lincoln, and Tillamook counties. The Bybee Lakes Hope Center will operate as a short-term emergency shelter and a long-term transitional housing/reentry program for Multnomah County residents who are experiencing homelessness. The facility is referral-based only and walk-ins won't be permitted. There will be separate dorms for single men, single women, and families. An exit program will be in place for those leaving the emergency shelter or the

transitional housing program, which diminishes the possibility of increasing the homeless population in North Portland (a concern brought up by a meeting attendee). In addition, the organization is very used to navigating transportation issues, so getting residents to and from the facility will not be an issue.

The jail will be renovated instead of demolished, removing all signs that it was ever intended to be a correctional facility. Most notably for the committee is the nonprofit's intention to keep the 40-foot tree buffer intact except for tree maintenance, thinning, and pruning to increase forest health and ensure vegetation is native to the wetlands. These trees were slated to be removed if the warehouse idea moved forward. Helping Hands is committed to being a good neighbor and will work with the committee to realize what is ecologically best for the site and best for operations.

No prominent structures built on the site within the first few years. The nonprofit will install some community gardens and playground equipment, but that is about it. There is a long-term vision of possibly adding an apartment complex for residents who've graduated from the program, and also an area where residents can learn to build their own tiny home. Not only will this provide them with profitable carpentry skills, but they will own the tiny home after they put in sweat equity.

The facility will most likely be operational by the end of 2020 and will initially offer three dorms with a capacity of up to 228 residents. Once all nine dorms have been opened, the maximum capacity will be roughly 525 people.

For more information on the Bybee Lakes Hope Center and the Helping Hands Reentry Outreach Center, please reference the below websites:

- Bybee Lakes Hope Center: <https://www.bybeelakeshopecenter.com/>
- Helping Hands Reentry Outreach Centers: <https://helpinghandsreentry.org/>

PLANNING PROJECTS UPDATES

Allan Schmidt was not in attendance but he provided written updates about planning projects happening at Smith and Bybee. *Attachment 1.*

COMPREHENSIVE NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN + CONSERVATION UPDATES

The current CNRP is expiring in about four years and the committee discussed possible ways to approach this. There is consensus that a CNRP needs to be in place for another ten years just like the current one. The committee isn't clear if the next plan should be a renewal, amendment or a rewrite. Emily Roth said that attorneys will need to interpret the land use decision by the hearing officer in order to understand what the options are. She also said that a rewrite would be necessary if there are substantial changes/new projects added. One committee member mentioned they'd like to see projects included that are dedicated to climate resiliency. A Metro planner will be the one to draft the new CNRP but there is no capacity at the moment. In a couple years when the document is closer to expiring, capacity could be created for this project.

The group assessed the projects that are outlined in the CNRP and inquired about the status of them in order to inform priorities for the next phase. Jonathan Soll summarized project statuses and if they will or will not be completed by the end of the current CNRP. See below.

- Expect to complete the forested wetland work.
- Water control structure upgrade finished.
- Next round of monitoring data complete.
- Are determining whether or not to do another round of Columbia sedge emergent restoration work. Doubtful that another phase will be completed by that time.
- Streaked horned lark reintroduction has not been very successful. Might change management methods to increase populations of other birds instead.
- Ludwigia research results will be available sometime this summer.
- Phase 4 of St. Johns prairie restoration won't be completed by 2024.

ACTION ITEMS

- Emily Roth to send hearing officer's land use decision regarding the CNRP to committee.
- Troy Clark to send Jonathan Soll statistics about the 78 bird species he recorded during the Christmas bird count.
- Emily to email Jonathan about maintenance concerns at Smith and Bybee.

GOALS FOR NEXT MEETING AND WRAP-UP

- Discuss writing a letter to Helping Hands with the committee's ecological recommendations.
- Discuss possibility of Elaine Stewart or someone else presenting about water management and variability in methods.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Attachment 1

From: [Allan Schmidt](#)
To: [Troy clark](#)
Cc: [Annie Toledo](#); [Jonathan Soll](#)
Subject: Apologies Troy
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 12:23:32 PM

Troy –

There is a bug going around our office and I think I picked it up. I am home today resting. As such I will miss tonight's Smith and Bybee Lake meeting. I am happy to schedule another meeting to brief you on the CBB and Prairie trail projects as needed.

Briefly:

1. The CBB is proceeding into an Alignment Study / Alternative Analysis. The team is leaning on a *northern* park and BES property alignment and reviewing construction feasibility of that alignment. We hope to have a proffered bridge type, size and location (30% design) by late spring. There are a lot of property issues to unpack but the team is working hard. After 30% design we will scope the remaining design work and if stars align we will continue the remaining work to develop a bid set of construction documents. IF all goes well we are 1.5 years away from ground breaking.
2. The SJP: We have finalized our scope of work with KPFF and we are hoping to start design on the trail to the overlook ASAP! We will do some info gathering and analysis prior to any community engagement but rest assured the SB Committee and Audubon will be major stakeholders. A schedule will be forthcoming after some administrative details.

Also, as to project funding (or rather lack of it), we will likely need additional funds on both the CBB and SJP. Metro is going through 2019 Bond Project Refinement process over the coming months and we hope to have these trail and bridge projects be on the final list. It is looking good given our area of work and the local community benefit as well as the transportation improvements for bikes and pedestrians.

All the best,

Allan

Allan Schmidt

Senior Parks & Nature Planner
Mobile: (503) 473-7341
Office: (503) 797-1876
Allan.Schmidt@oregonmetro.gov