

Metro Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee
March 3, 1998 Summary Meeting Minutes
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Present: Jay Hamlin, Jim Battan, Mike Reid, Ivy Frances, Bob Akers, Seth Tane, Brian Scott, John Griffiths, Rick Charriere, Faun Hosey, Deb Scrivens, Ron Klein, Eric Sample, Jennifer Budhabhatti, and Sylvia Milne.

Mike Reid called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Ron Klein presented the minutes from the February RPAGAC meeting. Mike asked the committee to review them and they were accepted.

The meeting began with an update and discussion of Title 3: Streams and Floodplain Management Plan. Mike Reid discussed the public testimony given by committee members and others at the February 26, 1998 MPAC meeting. Jennifer Budhabhatti discussed the written comments from the City of Sherwood and Tualatin. Jennifer said that she and Rosemary Furfey wrote a reply letter defending the science in the White Paper. She handed out that letter. Seth Tane mentioned that the small amount of science in the White Paper. Seth felt as more science developed, support for even wider buffers would increase, and as Goal 5 is revisited even wider buffers will be required. Jennifer handed out the language that the Columbia Corridor Association was proposing to exempt cities that already have buffers under Goal 5. Seth said he felt MPAC was a buffer to MTAC's attempted revisions. Jennifer then discussed the controversy about the Floodplain maps and some different staff interpretations to the various regulations. She said those problems were being worked on. Jennifer also felt that MPAC would listen to MTAC's recommendations and the WRPAC language would go to the Council separately. Seth mentioned that diking exemptions are being sought by Oregon City. Mike Reid said he was concerned that the planning mechanism for fixing mistakes was missing. Ivy Frances said that there was a planning mechanism through the FEMA 100 year Floodplain. Ivy suggested randomly selecting areas and looking at the number of housing units lost with a 100 foot buffer versus a 200 foot buffer and use this as a tool to rebuff the arguments being made. Jennifer and Seth both indicated that most of this buffer land is unbuildable and is not included in the urban reserve. Ivy explained how the City of Portland is dealing with the Johnson Creek Floodplain. Mike asked about the upcoming timeline for Title 3. Jennifer indicated that there was a meeting on March 5 and MPAC meetings on March 11 and 25 and the Council meeting on April 19. Jennifer said it was important for the committee to talk with MPAC about the importance of sticking with WRPAC's recommendations for Title 3. Jay Hamlin requested that a list of committee members for GTAC and MPAC be provided to the RPAGAC. Ron Klein said he would mail copies to the committee. Committee action was taken to offer support to Title 3 as written by WRPAC. Mike Reid encouraged individual members of RPAGAC to lobby MPAC and Council to support Title 3 as written by WRPAC.

Deb Scrivens, Metro Park's education program coordinator, provided an overview of volunteer accomplishments in environmental education with a specific focus on the Volunteer Naturalist Program. She discussed the importance of the proposed Volunteer Coordinator position helping to expand the department's program activities. Mike Reid asked Deb if we were involved in Diane Fisher's program at Franklin High School. Deb said no, but would be interested in learning more. Faun Hosey asked about the progress on the Nature Center at Smith and Bybee Lakes. Deb said that the center was on hold but the Oxbow Nature Center planning was happening. Ron mentioned that the Oregon Parks Foundation might be taking the Oxbow center on as a fundraising project. Mike

Reid mentioned the recent story in the Oregonian about the fundraising efforts of Tillamook High School and how this is a good example of a success story. Mike Reid asked if a job description for the Volunteer Coordinator position was available yet for the committee to review. Ron Klein said it was not yet available but one would be developed and could be brought to RPAGAC for review. John Griffiths asked if the position was through Council. Ron Klein responded that it was in Burton's budget and the Council would be making a decision around May.

Ron Klein discussed the details of a potential partnership with Willamette Week that might result in future editions of Metro GreenScene being published as an insert in Willamette Week. Ron said he was looking to RPAGAC for their feedback on this proposal. Faun Hosey asked if we would continue our direct mailing of GreenScene. Ron said we were not planning to continue direct mailing because of the cost. Seth Tane asked if we could off-set Willamette Week's weak distribution areas with extra copies. Ron said we would be producing extras and deliver them to places such as the Gresham library. Seth asked if breaks had been made for the level of advertising. Ron said that information was forthcoming from Willamette Week. Seth asked if we had made a proposal to the Oregonian. Ron said we had not. Brian Scott asked if we were concerned about Willamette Week's editorials. Ron said this would not be connected and we had submitted a list of appropriate advertisers. Ron handed out the list. Jim Batten asked if we would have an announcement on the front cover of Willamette Week. Ron said he assumed that Willamette Week would announce the insert at least for the first couple of issues. Mike Reid said that this partnership sounded like a good idea but he hoped we would limit the advertising to a maximum thirty-five percent. Jim Batten asked if we had approached a foundation for GreenScene funding. Ron said we had, but that they indicated that they don't fund communication pieces like this. Seth asked if RPAGAC could see the results of the ad breakdown and he said that he felt GreenScene would be more effective with less ads. Ron said we were shooting for twenty-five percent ads, but wanted to look at the full range of ad proposals. Faun Hosey suggested adding restaurant's to the list of appropriate advertisers. Ron asked how RPAGAC felt about this proposal. RPAGAC indicated support for this proposal.

Ron Klein indicated that he was going to Council with the new RPAGAC members for District 2 and District 6.

Bob Akers mentioned that the 40-Mile Loop Land Trust was looking for new board members and if any of the committee member's were interested to see him.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

The next meeting of the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday, April 7, 1998, Metro Regional Center, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.