



## **Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

### **Nature & Trails Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Date: September 18, 2019**

**Time: 6:30 PM**

**Location: Fanno Creek Service Center**

#### **In Attendance**

Committee Members: Sam Scheerens (chair), Margaret Hite (secretary), Sheri Wantland, Gerri Scheerens, Jack Shorr

Absent: Laura Porter, Tosin Abiodun, Megan McMillan

Staff: Kristin Smith, Mark Pierce

Board Liaison: Wendy Kroger

Guests: Alaka Sarangdhar, Ryan Stee, Dyami Valentine

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM

**II. Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the July 2019 meeting were presented to the committee. Gerri moved to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Margaret. The minutes were accepted by a unanimous vote.

**III. Guest Comments:** Alaka introduced herself as a community member, THPRD program user, and past Recreation Advisory Committee member who is interested in becoming involved again in THPRD volunteer work.

#### **IV. New Business**

A. Hillsboro Presentation: Ryan Stee from Hillsboro Parks and Recreation department gave a presentation focusing on regional trail systems and connections, both in progress and planned; community outreach efforts; and their efforts to establish a diversity, equity, and inclusion focus in their district.

B. Washington County Presentation: Dyami Valentine, senior planner for Washington County, gave a presentation on bike/pedestrian facilities. He focused on the ongoing Tualatin Valley Trail concept plan, including the challenges presented by the unincorporated area from 160<sup>th</sup> to Cornelius Pass regarding potential trail alignments. He also reviewed community outreach efforts for the Tualatin Valley Trail, and reviewed concepts for potential upcoming trail development, including the Yamhelas Westsider Trail, the Council Creek Trail, and the Salmonberry Trail.

C. Safety Presentation: Mark Pierce, THPRD security manager, provided an overview of Park Patrol.

Highlights included:

- Priorities: Patron and staff security, asset protection, emergency response.
- Efforts to focus on educating patrons to encourage voluntary compliance rather than punitive measures, as well as encouraging positive interactions with community members (e.g., change of uniforms to appear less like law-enforcement officers.)
- Follow-up on incidents reported by patrons. (Goal is to follow up with each patron, regardless of how minor issue may seem.)
- Coordination of emergency response in case of disaster or emergency (e.g., Beaverton Public School District plan for parent reunification sites on THPRD grounds in event of school evacuation.)
- Community outreach, mostly to neighborhood associations, children's camps.

- Trends in reported incidents: several waves of car break-ins at nature parks, camping in parks. Mark noted significant decrease in calls regarding off-leash dogs since institution of “Love ‘em and Leash ‘em” campaign.
- Wendy reminded members of advisory of their role in advising board regarding use of budget, including advocating for funds for Park Patrol if the committee deems it appropriate.

D. Underserved Audiences: Presentation on NEWT (Nature Experiences and Workforce Training) Program was postponed until a future meeting TBD.

**V. Old Business**

A. Tualatin Hills Nature Park (THNP) Sewer Project: Discussion was postponed until a future meeting TBD.

**VI. Other**

Upcoming events: Sam noted that Multnomah County should be issuing judgment regarding Bethany Creek Trail #2 in upcoming weeks. (Both he and Wendy presented at recent public meeting.) Also noted were upcoming grand openings for Bonny Slope and Willow Creek trail facilities.

**VII. Next Meeting will be a Joint Advisory Committee meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup> at the Fanno Creek Service Center.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Hite

Recording Secretary