



Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Nature & Trails Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: September 21, 2022

Time: 6:30-8:10pm

Location: Zoom virtual meeting

In Attendance

Committee Members: Heather AbuSneineh, Katy Brumbelow, Margaret Hite (chair), Shirley Hoffmann, Erik Lehr, Alison Rhea, Sam Scheerens

Guests: Tya Ping

Staff: Bruce Barbarasch, Nature & Trails Manager

I. **Call to Order:** 6:30pm

II. **Approval of Minutes:** Alison moved to approve August's minutes. Seconded by Erik and passed unanimously.

III. **Business**

Emerald ash borer presentation by Bruce Barbarasch Emerald ash borer specimens (a non-native insect) have been observed in Forest Grove. These pests tend to ravage ash groves. Much is known about their life cycle. Potential areas of the district that have ash trees were highlighted, including along Fanno Creek. Several members asked questions regarding how to limit the spread. THPRD is working in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Oregon Department of Forestry, and Clean Water Services to study and understand the insect's extent and how to mitigate the problem. The Natural Resources Functional Plan includes designations for High/Moderate/Low Functioning areas. These areas may get different kinds of treatment.

Questions:

How long ago did infestation start? Unknown. Data from Forest Grove suggests that they have been in the area for three or four years before being discovered.

Which rodents/birds eat ash borers? Woodpeckers and wasps, article submitted by Katy from Audubon Society.

Are they in other areas besides Forest Grove? Unknown as yet.

New member Recruitment Several members are ending their term, creating openings for new members. THPRD has a goal to connect to new communities to expand

representation. Current members were encouraged to spread the word to community of this opportunity. Several volunteered to help with the interview process during the November meeting which will involve 2-4 hours of participating in interviews and making recommendations to the board.

Climate Action Plan

THPRD Process includes adapting and mitigating. The following VAP goals have been suggested from the community. 1) Be a leader; 2) Have an active response and 3) Proactively plant trees.

In order to avoid duplication of efforts by Beaverton and Washington County, THPRD has focused internally on actions that might be taken regarding building and vehicles which will have a higher return, including switching to clean electric power for some equipment, also taking a look at employee commute. Installing charging stations is also an option.

Questions and comments: Encouragement to be a leader to the community.
Does THPRD use wind/renewable power or hydro? Subscribes to PGEs green energy plan which is predominantly wind powered. Past studies have found that solar not practical on THPRD's larger buildings, but staff will reexamine this
How is carbon neutrality measured?

Other Business:

Question from Shirley regarding H.L. Cain Wetlands no longer being labeled on a printed map. Answer: The site was not labeled on the map because it does not have public access- the map focused on locations where people can actively visit. The site still has the same name.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katy Brumbelow, recording secretary