

Rhododendron CPO Minutes

July 16, 2016

Zigzag Inn

Open Meeting:

President Steve Graeper called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M. Attendee's included: Steve Graeper, Nancy Dougherty, Merv Novinger, Michelle Lamoreaux, and Carol Haugk. Sharon Lamoreaux was absent and excused. He noted that a quorum was present.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the May meeting have been on display at the post office and were distributed prior to this meeting. Graeper asked if there were any changes or corrections. There were none. Barbara Novinger moved and Nancy Dougherty seconded **a motion to approve the May 2016 minutes as distributed. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report:

Steve Graeper gave the treasurer's report in Sharon Lamoreaux's absence.

5-21-2016 Beginning Balance

General Fund: \$469.68

Garden Fund: \$ 44.67

As of last CPO mtg: **\$514.35**

Donation to Garden: \$ 67.00

Donation to General Fund: \$ 17.00

Checks written: \$ (20.00) Reimburse Steve Graeper for March meeting

\$ (22.50) Still Creek Inn for meeting

\$ (50.00) Secretary of State Fee

Balances as of 7-16-2016:

General Fund: \$394.18

Garden Fund: \$111.67

7-16-2016 Ending Balance **\$505.85**

Graeper presented the reimbursement check from the county for \$150.00 and asked that Merv Novinger deposit into the CPO account.

Guest Speaker:

Graeper introduced Ranger Bill Westbrook from the Zig Zag Ranger Station. Westbrook addressed funding for the 3000+ miles of roads and bridges in our Mt. Hood National Forest. He said that \$100,000 (One Hundred Thousand Dollars) is all that is allocated annually for repair and maintenance. He indicated that the majority of those funds are used for emergency repairs and addressing safety priorities. He pointed out examples of costs associated with road maintenance (per mile) such as; \$1200 just to de-brush the foliage from the sides of the roads; \$3000 to clean out ditches and drainage structures; \$1700 to blade and gravel, just to name a few. Then there are the emergencies, such as landslides or washouts that also use the funds. Bottom line was that funding for road maintenance is very inadequate. Ranger Westbrook is mandated to do the best with what is allocated and he is not in a position to advocate for additional funding. The Forest Service does occasionally solicit for grant funding

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through FLAP (Federal Land Access Program) and FLTP (Federal Lands Transportation Program) Grants, but the chance of being awarded grant funds is minimal at best.

The discussion then focused on the bridges in our area that are in disrepair or closed for safety issues; specifically, the Road 20 Zig Zag Bridge, the Road 20 Still Creek Bridge, and the Road 35 Still Creek Bridge. Westbrook indicated that Josh Marxen, FS Road Maintenance Manager, has delivered gravel for pothole repair and the Zigzag Bridge has been semi-repaired by replacing some of the surface planks that had deteriorated. Further work is expected.

The Road 20 Bridge and the Road 32 Bridge over Still Creek are both closed because of safety reasons. Neither bridge has been decommissioned. FS engineers are examining both bridges and developing plans for repair of one or both. If funds become available to repair only one, then the preference would be to repair or replace the Road 20 Bridge where it crosses Still Creek.

It was suggested that perhaps, as a Homeowners Association, we could solicit our Senators and Congressmen for additional funding for road maintenance in the Mt. Hood National Forest.

After the discussion on road funding, Graeper asked Westbrook to address the stream restoration currently taking place with the windfall trees that came down in December. Westbrook indicated that the restoration process is contracted out and that the contractor is being monitored very closely to insure the process is following Forest Service protocol. Greg Wanner, Forest Service Fish Biologist, is in charge of supervising the replanting and stream restoration. He pointed out that any logs that get placed are engineered and anchored into place to prevent being dislodged during high water events. Greg Wanner, Forest Service Fish Biologist, is in charge of supervising the replanting and stream restoration. Westbrook indicated that he was available at the Zigzag Ranger Station should anyone have any questions and Graeper Thanked him for his presentation and all he does to help manage our Mt. Hood National Forest.

Old Business:

Bike/Pedestrian Committee Report

Michelle Lamoreaux gave a report on the Villages at Mt. Hood Pedestrian and Bikeway Implementation Plan. The main concern is pedestrian safety in Rhododendron. She has drafted a letter to Clackamas County regarding a crosswalk that would cross Highway 26 in Rhododendron. Various alternatives were discussed.

Clackamas County and Villages at Mt. Hood:

Steve stated that the status of the Mt. Hood Corridor CPO has not changed. The MHC-CPO is remains inactive at this time. He also reported that the BCC has voted to keep the Villages at Mt. Hood in hiatus until further notice.

CPO Boundary Change Update:

Graeper reported he is still working on expanding the Rhododendron CPO boundaries. He was waiting until Katie Wilson, the recently hired PGA Assistant who is replacing Barbara Smolak, to start in her position.

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Rhododendron Memorial Garden Report:

Barbara Novinger gave the Rhododendron Garden update. She thanked the volunteers for their help. A watering schedule has been implemented for the summer. There is still work to do on the dry creek bed and another load of bark dust to be spread.

Road Clean-up Report:

Carol Haugk reported that Road Clean-up continues and the Swinging Bridge has been cleaned up and weeded between the slats.

Chamber of Commerce Report:

Carol also spoke on the Mt. Hood Chamber of Commerce. She noted that the ongoing plans for several BLM properties in our area were presented at June Chamber. And, a speaker from the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office spoke about fraud and identity security at the July Chamber meeting.

Land Use Applications:

None presented

New Business:

Graeper reported that Clackamas County has asked Rhododendron CPO to update our CPO bylaws to align them with the bylaws required by the county. Graeper noted that he elected to draft a whole new set of bylaws rather than submit the numerous amendments that needed to be changed. He pointed out that in accordance to our current bylaws, the amendment procedure is to have a vote to accept the amendment and if passed, the amendment becomes a part of the meeting minutes and gets distributed to the membership. Prior to this meeting, Graeper distributed to the Board a draft of the proposed bylaws. He pointed out that in substance the amended bylaws follow very closely with the intent of the original bylaws. He also pointed out that County Counsel has approved the draft bylaw, which is a county requirement. Questions from the Board were discussed and after discussion Nancy Dougherty made and Carol Haugk seconded **a motion to accept the draft amended bylaws as part of the minutes. The motion passed.** A copy of the amended bylaws will be made available to the membership. A copy will be placed in the Post Office and distributed as an attachment to these minutes.

Adjournment:

Since there was no further business, Graeper suggested the next Rhododendron CPO meeting should be held on Saturday September 17, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. Location to be announced.

Barbara Novinger then moved and Merv Novinger seconded **a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.** Graeper adjourned the meeting at 11:40 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Merv Novinger
Secretary