



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

Date: April 27, 2022

Called to order at 7:41 p.m.

Attendance:

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

Staff: Bruce Barbarasch, Greg Creager

Motion to approve minutes by Sam and seconded by Erik passed unanimously.

Marty announced that Salzman road realignment update project link is available at <https://saltzman-road.washcoopenhouses.org/>

Greg Creager Update on THNC Sewer Project:

The project is halfway completed and currently beginning the second construction season. The primary trail closures this season will be the Vine Maple Trail and Oak Trail boardwalks over Cedar Mill Creek. The scale of the closures this construction season are minimal, but the impact to connectivity and preferred walking routes are high. The project footprint is from the service road entry off of 170th to the junction with Cedar Mill Creek, and north through the park. The project follows the same line as an existing pipe that is now undersized after 30 to 40 years of population growth. Other routes were considered, such as circumventing the park itself, but were multiple times the cost of going along the creek due to the needed depths away from the creek. Downsides to the project are the disruption to the trails through trail closures and the disturbance to wildlife, and loss of trees. Site restoration and enhanced floodplain connectivity, 1000s of plantings, and new boardwalk structures on Big Fir Trail- installed Fall 2021, Oak Trail and Vine Maple are all positives. Logs were taken out and repurposed throughout.

Questions from members:

1. Has there been a comprehensive survey about bird populations before 2nd phase of construction was begun?

Answer: Much was done in preparation to eliminate disruption of nesting by conducting nest searches and material was cut prior to the nesting season. (Note: E-bird is a citizen science site that might be helpful)

2. What is the longevity of the new pipe?

The new sewer will be constructed of Hobas pipe material and has a life span of about 50 years.

Regarding scheduling of later meetings, committee members were asked about their comfort level meeting in-person. Consensus was comfortable with in-person with some preference for wearing masks.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 25th at 6:30 p.m. and will be virtual.

Respectfully submitted,

Katy Brumbelow