



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

**Date: April 26, 2023**

**Time: 7:15 pm**

**Location: Via Zoom**

### **In Attendance**

Committee Members: Shirley Hoffmann (secretary), Vidyanand Kulkarni, Carl Nelson, Tina Ricks, Erik Lehr (Chair), Carla Fennell

Absent: Heather AbuSneineh, Brittany Leffel, Margaret Hite

Board Liaison: Tya Ping

Staff: Bruce Barbarasch, Nature & Trails Manager

Guests: None

**I. Call to Order** The meeting commenced at 7:16 pm.

**II. Approval of Minutes** Chair Erik called for review and approval of the March meeting minutes. Carl moved to approve. Erik seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**III. Old Business** None

**IV. New Business**

Bruce has requested that the Committee provide input on addressing trail gaps and road/street connections that connect THPRD trail segments. He would like the Committee to prioritize which trail gaps should be fixed first and why. He gave an illustration of a trail gap on the Waterhouse trail as it crosses Hwy 26 and Cornell Road at Bethany Blvd. Fixing these gaps is complex as it often involves dealing with multiple jurisdictions (in this example the City of Beaverton, ODOT and Washington County). All have their own priorities, requirements and regulations. THPRD would like to fix some of these gaps but with limited funding, they need to prioritize them.

The Committee discussed what the parameters should be for prioritizing THPRD's trail gap projects. Several key parameters highlighted were safety of crossing the gap (getting statistics on accident or possible near accident incidents), whether the gap is near schools or areas where children will be using it, how heavy road traffic is in the gap area and the priorities and requirements of other jurisdictions that would be involved. Bruce will send us a list of the gaps.

### HOMEWORK: May and June

--The Committee will receive a list of gaps from Bruce and will take the next two months (before the June Committee meeting) to visit and document the issues at these gaps. The Committee will then prioritize fixing these gaps at the June meeting.

--Tina will set up a google docs site to download pictures and videos of the gaps visited.

--Shirley will contact the Beaverton Police and Washington County Sheriff to get accident statistics from these gap sites.

--The Committee will communicate internally to figure out times to visit sites and who will be seeing each site.

The Committee then voted on determining which idea for an advisory grant we should focus on. The idea list was generated at the March meeting. Each attending member selected their top two ideas. It was clear that signage for wayfinding trail gaps was the top pick. As we do the research on these gaps, we will refine a grant idea that will support dealing with a trail gap.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE HOMEWORK:

Based on the information from the April 26, 2023 combined THPRD Committees presentation on THPRD's budget shortfall, members will brainstorm ideas for revenue enhancement for THPRD as well as areas for spending reductions. These will be discussed at the May meeting.

**V. Other None**

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

**VI. Next Meeting will be held on**

May 17  
6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Hoffmann  
Recording Secretary