



## FRIENDS OF TUALATIN RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE COMPLEX

August 23, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held via Zoom.

**Present:** Dawn Carovano, Alan Christensen, Cheryl Hart, Tom Hartz, Sharon Miller, Willem Stoeller, Irene Vlach

**Staff:** Bonnie Anderson, Natalie Balkam, Rebecca Chuck, Eva Kristofik.

**Guests:** Alan Ma (Jesuit Highschool and OCC), Carol Murdock (CWS), Jane Vankuren (Sherwood Rotary).

### I. Quorum

We have a quorum (6 directors required).

**II. Excused Absences:** Michael Boreing, Keith Mays, Phyllis Millan, Tom Stibolt.

### III. Call to Order (6:35)

### IV. Welcome and Introductions

### V. Kudos

### VI. Approval of Agenda

### VII. Consent Agenda

1. Standing Committee Reports
  - Planning
  - Financial Reports
  - Governance Committee
  - IT-Web-Marketing
  - Membership Committee
  - Store Report

It was suggested that the committee chairs put their names on their reports and other posted documents, as well as contact info (email) and the date.

2. Ad-Hoc Committee:

- King City

3. Minutes of 7-26-2022 Meeting

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda and the Reports:

1. Willem

2. Dawn

Passed.

### **VIII. Reports**

a. President – Cheryl Hart

There will not be a board meeting in September. The Annual Meeting will be held on Sept. 24.

Cheryl, Willem, Tom H, and Alan volunteered to be on the nominating committee. We need candidates for the position of Vice-President.

b. Executive Director – Bonnie Anderson

See written report, now posted.

c. Refuge Project Rebecca Chuck: Refuge Updates

Wapato Lake Refuge: USFWS received 63 very diverse comments from the public. Many expressed concerns about safety, given that the area is small and has only one access point.

The Service's decision is a hybrid solution: the waterfowl hunting season will extend for 6 weeks, from the beginning of December to mid-January. Except for hunters, nobody else will have access to Wapato Lake NWR during this time. ODFW doesn't agree with this alternative, as hunting is important to the agency's mission and an important source of revenue. Nevertheless, this will be it for the next 3-5 years, until there is reliable water and the levies are fixed. The general public will have access from February through September on the whole trail, and on a portion of the trail in October and November, as the private hunting blinds will be in use during those months. The Service is currently working on finalizing the plan and issuing a FONSI, in response to the public comments. Rebecca will brief the regional director on the decision. There will be a soft opening as soon as the decision is approved and the documents are signed. A grand opening is planned for October and Rebecca requested our help.

The above decision will be revisited when the levee repairs are completed, in 3-5 years, to hopefully find a solution that will satisfy ODFW.

Eva will be on vacation during the month of October.

d. Refuge Staff: Natalie Balkam

A volunteer event – a walk at Wapato Lake NRW - will take place on Thursday. The annual volunteer appreciation event will be held on Sept. 15 – It will again be a drive through event. Anna, the seasonal employee and Todd met with the Sherwood school district diversity coordinator. The Visitor Services team is working with Portland Audubon on a bird collision survey and on how to prevent the collisions.

**IX. Old Business**

a. Action Items from last meeting update:

None

b. Approval of the 2022-23 Friends' Budget

- Given the still uncertain times, both the Store Income and donations for General Administration, are guesses.
- Since the Environmental Education column is all zeroes, a request was made to remove that column from the budget.
- Given the July levels of income from both Membership Dues and from Individual Donations, the budget was amended to increase those amounts.
- No decision has been about a potential 2023 BirdFest.

Motion to approve the budget as proposed, but with the removal of the EE column and increased amounts for membership and individual donations:

1. Tom
2. Alan Passed.

c. Any other old business

Tonquin Quarry: Alan has been working with the Western Rivers Conservancy in the hope that the organization and the owner of the property might make a deal for WRC to acquire the land. A decision is unlikely to be made until after the November hearing.

**XI. New Business**

a. Review Committee Charters

All committee charters are posted in the Google folder. The committee chairs are asked to add their name, contact info and the date to their respective documents.

It was proposed that all charters be drawn following a template so they all look the same and all look professional.

Motion: to approve the charters as written with the understanding that the format will be changed while their substance will remain the same:

1: Alan

2 Tom

Passed.

Next step: each committee needs to start developing a work plan as relating to the pillars.

b. Acting Secretary

Sharon has agreed to be acting Secretary while Irene is abroad.

Motion to designate Sharon as acting Secretary while Irene is gone:

1. Irene

2. Dawn

Passed. Sharon abstained.

c. Any other New Business

Invitations and revised bylaws will be sent tomorrow to our members for the Annual meeting. (to be held by Zoom). Keith and Cheryl are up for re-election and Michael needs to be ratified by the membership.

At the Annual Meeting, Alan Ma and his team will do a panel on the future of conservation – an opportunity to talk about how they see the future of conservation and climate change.

Bonnie and Dawn met with new member Tina Dippert who is interested in taking over membership. They will start the training in the middle of September. Tina will join the membership committee.

**XI. Announcements**

In September there will be neither an Executive Committee meeting nor a Board Meeting.

**XII. Adjourn\_(8:20)**

August 24, 2022 Minutes of Electronic Vote

On August 24 Willem made a motion that we endorse the Metro Parks Levy Renewal, Measure 26-225, which will be on the ballot this November 8 and will extend the levy for another five years.

Tom Hartz seconded.

8 Board members voted yes.  
1 Board member abstained.  
The motion passed on September 1.

Cheryl will notify Metro that they may list Friends of Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge Complex as a supporter on their voter materials.

#### August 30, 2022 Minutes of Electronic Vote

On August 29 Bonnie informed the board by email that we have the ability to receive 2 small grants from One Tree Planted to help with volunteer planting events. A first grant would be for assistance with the bioswale clean up. This event will take place in October. We will then apply for the next grant for a hillside planting for woody shrubs. This planting needs to wait until December.

On August 30 Willem made a motion to proceed now with the buying of the plants for the described planting in December.

Keith seconded.

9 members voted yes.

1 member abstained

The motion passed on September 1.