

**Partnership for Coastal Watersheds:
COOS ESTUARY INVENTORY PROJECT SUBCOMMITTEE**



MEETING NOTES

Date: February 13, 2014

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Coos Bay Library (Cedar Room)

Present:

Marty Giles- citizen at large

Ann Farrel-Matthews- citizen at large; SWOCC

Troy Woody – Sterling Media NW

Craig Cornu - South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve

Jenni Schmitt - South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve

Jon Souder - Coos Watershed Association

Alexa Carleton - Coos Watershed Association

Introductions

Alexa Carleton began the meeting by inviting participants to introduce themselves.

Partnership for Coastal Watersheds review:

Alexa asked everyone to go around and give a 2 sentence “elevator speech” as to what the PCW project is.

- Marty asked if the PCW is adequately represented by not only agency folks, but also community members and non-agency people.
- Craig answered that we’ve asked people to join, but we’re not necessarily represented adequately by the community, but that’s something this committee can do.
- Marty said that not everyone wants to serve on a committee necessarily, but they may still be interested in participating in the PCW project in some capacity.
- Alexa said later stages of the Action Planning might be a way to involve people, after the planning stages are laid out and they can just get involved in helping implement the actions.
- Troy mentioned that the website would be a great place for people to ‘join’ by signing up for a newsletter or have a place to donate money. He added that you can encourage people to join by highlighting interest groups that are already a part of it (e.g., fishermen in the community).
- Craig cautioned that the subcommittees themselves might be better if members that served on them were hand-picked for a best fit in that particular subcommittee. He

added that you can have great participation in a subcommittee but not necessarily accomplish anything.

Alexa continued with the review of the Phase 2 PCW project by explaining its structure: an all-encompassing Full Committee and 4 subcommittees that have select individuals serving on them. The 4 subcommittees are: Coos Estuary Inventory Project; Coos Estuary Monitoring Tools; Action Plan; Coordination.

- Craig gave the update for the Coos Estuary Inventory Project
- Jenni gave a quick explanation of the Coos Estuary Monitoring Tools, including the hydrodynamic model and the water quality monitoring network
- Alexa continued by giving an Action Plan subcommittee update

Coordination Subcommittee Goals

Alexa brought everyone's attention to the goals on the back of the agenda and asked if some or all of these goals should be accomplished by this subcommittee

- Craig stated that one role for this committee could be to see the need for an Action Plan to come out of the current Coos Estuary Inventory
- Jon said he could see a place for goal 2 (serve PCW subcommittees) as currently four different groups are doing estuary-wide studies and two of those are doing hydrodynamic models. He said one role for this committee could be to host all these groups locally in order to get them all at the same table to discuss common goals.
- Craig added an idea to provide a forum to the community and host a community collaborative learning training.
- Ann asked how aware the community in general was about the PCW project existence
- Jon answered "not at all" and went on to explain that Phase 1 of the project had an outreach plan and maybe it was time to gear up for Phase 2 outreach
- Craig replied that part of that plan should be for presentations to the community to come from committee members themselves (vs South Slough or Coos Watershed Association).
- Troy suggested a Chamber of Commerce presentation to get out in from of any existing negative messaging
- Jon agreed that a presentation to the Chamber would help obviate fears
- Ann said that what this group *is not* about is as important as what it *is* about in terms of promoting the project and alleviating fears
- Jon suggested near term goals for this committee to be: draft an elevator speech; draft FAQ's about what this project is and isn't; put together a presentation for talking to community groups
- Craig said one specific presentation wasn't appropriate; an outline could be made, but each group should be catered to specifically
- Troy agreed and said that we could cater to each group by including an appropriate "what's in it for me" section

- Troy went on to suggest using video on the PCW website to help explain the different facets of the project
- Craig also wanted everyone to think about what the long-term goals of the PCW project are, several years down the road.
- Jon answered that that would be a good FAQ to include in the website.
- Overall, the group agreed that the goals on the back of the agenda were all still appropriate.

Alexa asked the group if there were any new embers they thought we should invite into the group.

- Jon suggested Melissa Cribbins to maintain closeness with the County Commissioners as well as the Chamber
- Jon also suggested inviting the cities and asking Crystal Shoji or Roger Craddock
- Craig thought this might be appropriate since the city tasked a planner to be included on the Coos Estuary Inventory Project subcommittee
- Troy suggested Shannon Souza (Sol Coast). He also mentioned we should include involvement from the tribes if possible.
- Craig said that before we invite any new members we need to make our group “presentable” and go a little further down the planning path in order to give potential joiners a better understanding of what we’re doing.
- Marty asked if Ann could be the official representation of SWOCC to help fill in an education niche.
- Ann said she’s ask, but they would probably appoint somebody else if they decided to join. She also added she would still participate as a citizen at large at the very least.
- Jon added Rick Keeting of Sterling Bank as a possible participant and Jon Hanson of South Coast Office supply (and he though also a Coos Bay City Council member)
- Jon also suggested talking to Tim Slater for ideas on who else we could include if nothing else
- Troy mentioned Brook Walton, on the sustainability task force for the Chamber and said she was definitely a big-picture thinker
- Troy also suggested Amber Burnett

Wrap up

Alexa wrapped up the meeting by asking everyone when we should have the next meeting

- Jon said the goals for the next meeting should be to have draft elevator speech, draft FAQ, and a draft powerpoint presentation outline that we work on by email beforehand and go over as a group at the next meeting. He also added that we should finalized this group’s objectives at the next meeting
- Marty suggested April 3 from 10-12 as a next meeting time