

Present were: Gail Fleming, chair; Shanti Loustaunou; Marianne Edain recording; Stan Berryman, staff

The meeting was called to order at 3:14 pm

The minutes of the 4-12-17 meeting were read and approved. It was agreed to review the “to do” list at the end of the meeting.

Marianne presented a report on the 5-8-17 Seawall Park ad hoc committee meeting. The question was raised as to whether POS wanted to take on the oversight of the Seawall Park committee and its work. It was agreed that POS would like oversight of the developments at the park, although the members wanted to know just what that involved.

The comp plan update was reviewed. Gail offered to meet with Brigid to point out copy-edits and to assure that basic concepts would be retained in the new version. All members agree to review the latest draft for consistency with the concepts in the previous comp plan.

The updated parks maps were reviewed and found to be inconsistent. Some areas marked as “private open space” are in fact city property. Stan agreed to speak with the intern to resolve these. The POS members had many questions and agreed that a meeting with the intern, Kelsey, would help resolve those. Gail will contact Kelsey to arrange a meeting.

There was not sufficient time to do justice to a review of the tree protection ordinance. Stan had mentioned that there were inconsistencies in the ordinance. He was asked to find those inconsistencies and present them to the POS at its next meeting. Gail presented a “Woodside Tree Booklet”, produced by the City of Woodside, California, as an example of what Langley might produce and distribute. The POS wants to be sure that the comp plan element includes the required “Urban Forest” strategy.

There was a discussion of open space policy in relation to trails. It was proposed to work with Island County to provide Public Benefit Rating System tax credits for provision of trail easements.

There was a short discussion of the Critical Area overlay map, mainly pointing out that the Critical Areas map in the comp plan was woefully inadequate. Marianne agreed to provide a first draft of an updated Critical Area overlay.

The TO DO list was reviewed:

Stan had agreed to communicate with property owners adjoining the Middle Langley trail asking them to stop dumping yard waste along the trail. He had not yet done so, but said he would do it.

Marianne had agreed to work with Steve of Frosty Hollow to produce a report and invoice on the Middle Earth investigation. That was done and both were submitted to Stan.

Marianne had agreed to write up a draft Critical Areas overlay. That is still in progress. The question was raised as to how to protect Critical Areas. First, we need to update Critical Areas maps to be more accurate and complete, and to include Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas, and then we need to improve enforcement.

Marianne had agreed to investigate how LMC protects the heron rookery. Still in progress. The question was raised as to how the city could protect the rookery and the conclusion was that the best place to start was to map it. Gail agreed to contact landowner Jerry Milhon concerning the herons and their protection.

Gail agreed to respond to Mr Kent Hansen re trails. She did, but had no response to date.

All POS members had agreed to compare the draft comp plan language with the existing. Only Gail had done so. Gail reminded us that the trails language had been moved to the Transportation element and needed to be reviewed there. Missing from the updated language is the concept of core wildlife areas and connecting corridors. POS feels it is an important underlying concept and needs to be included.

All POS members had agreed to review and propose amendments to the tree protection ordinance. None had done so.

Marianne had agreed to communicate to Mayor Tim that POS agrees with a declaration that May 20 should be Kids in Parks day. Didn't happen. Gail agreed to do this.

Marianne agreed to post the minutes of the March meeting to Darlene. This was done.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.