

SW Trails PDX  
Monthly Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2018

The Watershed Building in Hillsdale  
6388 SW Capitol Hwy  
Portland OR 97239

**Attendance:** Doug Rogers, Don Baack, Dave Manville, Sharon Fekety, Virginia Hendrickson, Lee Buhler, Glenn Bridger, Debbie Small, Chris Mays, Barbara Bowers, Barbara Stedman, Joan Kauth, Hans Steuch, Nicole Peirce, Keturah Pennington, Chris Mays, Andy Jausky, Mark McKenzie, Brita Gordon, Michael Kisor, Michael Harrison, Andrea Wall

Doug called to order at 7:01pm

**Introductions**

**Agenda:** Lee made a motion to approve the agenda with addition of the budget approval. Debbie seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Minutes:** Don made a motion to approve the January 25, 2018 minutes as amended. Barbara Bowers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Upcoming Events:** There will be a SWIM working Group meeting on First Thursday (Apr. 5th, 4:30-6:30 pm) at Stephens Creek Crossing. There will be "20 is Plenty" sign pickups on Sunday, March 31 at Bridlemile Park and the Multnomah Arts Center

**Hikes:** Lee will lead the April hike. It will be in the Tryon Creek Natural Area. Sharon said we had 34 hikers last month. Don will lead the May hike where it will end at the celebration for the 25<sup>th</sup> and Bertha trail.

**Work Parties:** The work party will be on April 5th. The location has not been sent but Dave will send an email.

**Treasurer's Report:** Chris said we have \$26,737.22 in the bank over five funds.

**Memberships:** Barbara Bowers said we have a total of 64 members.

**Social Media:** Barbara said there is a steady stream of people joining on Facebook and Twitter. She said there are pictures of the new stairs on SW 25<sup>th</sup> & Bertha trail on Facebook. Debbie said she has seen an increase of kids using the trail.

**Red Electric Bridge Update:** Nicole Peirce from PBOT talked about the Red Electric trail. She described the trail planning history and the bridge to be built over the gully near Bertha and Beaverton-Hillsdale Hwy. She displayed a map of the route. Don had some suggestions for adding trails leading to the Red Electric trail. Nicole showed a map of the chosen alignment of the trail as it leaves the bridge going northwest. They want to minimize the number of trees removed. They will add plantings. Nicole displayed drawings with details of the bridge. There will be lighting on the bridge. The bridge

will be 12' wide and the trail will be 10' wide. There will be one viewing spot. Mark asked the bridge's length and Nicole said it was 250' long. She said they will start construction in one year. Nicole said the lights will just light the bridge and not shine into adjacent neighbors' windows. The design is 60% done. They want to get the design done this summer and get bids in the fall. The total cost is \$3.9 million. Don pointed out that the cost was a lot less when the bridge was originally proposed. Doug asked if the road behind Sasquatch would be widened and Nicole said they do not have the money to do that. Doug said the bridge could have many individual users, plus groups of walkers and bikes, that would lead many more people to use Bertha which is now a narrow street and people drive too fast on it. Debbie said many people use Bertha as a cut through. She said the corner at Bertha and B-H Hwy. could be dangerous and recommended moving the trail down Bertha a little away from B-H Hwy. Nicole said the engineer looked at it and thought the current alignment was safe. Don pointed out that there could be two alignments.

**Don made a motion to ask PBOT to include in the current plans an additional trail near the north trailhead (now at B-H Hwy. & Bertha), that would angle directly west over to SW Bertha so walkers could avoid going up the hillside to where Bertha joins B-H Hwy. He said it would be safer than the B-H Hwy. corner and people will cut through anyway. Lee seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.** (Doug suggested prohibiting a left turn to Bertha. Nicole said the engineer is looking into it.)

**Don made a motion to request that PBOT do a traffic safety plan on Bertha Blvd. (has no sidewalks, narrow, hazardous) from the north end of the new bridge trail to SW 30<sup>th</sup> to ensure safety for pedestrians. Glenn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **SW Corridor Plan**

Michael Kisor talked about the SW Corridor Plan. He is on the citizen advisory committee. Metro has come up with a proposed route. They chose the Barbur alignment over Naito close to downtown. The route will follow Barbur most of the way. They chose the Barbur alignment as it is less expensive and a little faster. This would not include the improvements at the Ross Island bridge head. They will leave the viaducts untouched and build additional bridges. Michael said he is pushing for a multi-modal bike/pedestrian path by the viaducts. He said Metro has acknowledged the problem but have not committed to the path. The route would go along Taylor's Ferry for a few blocks and then turn to cross I-5. There will be a public meeting in April to discuss the alignments at the Capital and Barbur area. Michael said they do not plan to have a bike/pedestrian trail at the I-5 crossing. There will only be two stations in the Tigard triangle. The project is estimated to cost \$2.6 to \$2.8 billion dollars. There will probably be a ballot measure for funding the project in 2020. Don pointed out that an interest rate increase could have a great impact on the project funding. They plan is to have a park and ride near Bonita. The City of Tigard has opposed any park and ride on Bonita. Mark pointed out that shortening the line such as putting the alignment on an angle causes confusion which is difficult for bicyclists and pedestrians.

### **SW Trail 1 at Terwilliger**

Michael Harrison from OHSU talked about the area where Campus Drive meets Terwilliger. SW Trail 1 crosses Terwilliger at that intersection. They are interested in the area as they anticipate higher usage when light rail is installed on Barbur. Michael displayed overhead slides on the project. The area next to the Casey Eye institute was a parking lot in the 50s replaced by lawn in the 90s and currently forested. TriMet has proposed some concepts on how to get from Barbur to the campus. There are

several problems with the intersection including pedestrian and bicycle safety. OHSU owns very little of the land adjacent to the intersection (it is mostly owned by Portland Parks). They are looking at the various crossing modes such as a tunnel or signalized surface crossing. Michael said they have not looked at a bridge crossing due to aesthetic considerations for the Terwilliger Parkway. Michael said he would return to SW Trails when they have preliminary design.

### **25<sup>th</sup> Avenue Grand Opening Ceremony:**

Debbie talked about the opening ceremony for the trail segment SW Trails built on 25<sup>th</sup> at SW Bertha. A group met at Debbie's house to plan the event. It will be on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. Debbie displayed a spreadsheet on items needed for the event. **Barbara moved to adopt Debbie's proposal; Lee seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.** We decided to have the event at 11:30am. Barbara and Hans agreed to help with food. Don said he would invite speakers and be master of ceremonies. Doug and Lee will handle publicity.

### **SW Trails Budget**

Don passed out a proposed adjusted budget for SW Trails and went over it. **Don moved adoption of budget. Glenn seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

Submitted by  
Lee Buhler