

SW Trails PDX
Monthly Meeting Minutes

September 27, 2018

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

Attendance: Don Baack, Sharon Fekety, Dave Manville, Lee Buhler, Debbie Small, Barbara Stedman, Barbara Bowers, Brita Gordon

Debbie, our Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:02pm (Doug, our President, was out of town with his family).

Agenda: Lee made a motion to approve the agenda with additions under other Business. Barbara Bowers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Barbara Bowers made a motion to approve the August 23, 2018, minutes with corrections. Sharon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming community events: Don said there is a Police Recognition event in October at SWNI.

Next month's SW Trails Hike announcement: Sharon said Rick will lead in October. It will be a stair walk. Lee will lead the November hike.

Next month's Work Party: Dave said next month's Parks work party will be at Marshall Park. Lots of different things to do. It will be Thursday, October 4 at 9:00am.

Treasury report: There is a total of \$25,185.22 in the SW Trails bank account. Year-to-date revenue is \$5,071 and expenses have been \$8,735.15

Membership: Barbara Bowers said three people joined in September.

Social Media: Barbara Stedman said we have 477 follows on Facebook

Meeting with PBOT to review the Urban Trails Program: Debbie said four of our members met with PBOT staff. Don said they have come a long way in realizing that what they are doing is not working. They are now more willing to work with us to get projects moving. Debbie showed a book from PBOT on livable streets which includes trails. Debbie also said they seemed very open to working with us. She said we should try to work under their format. Dave asked about Seymour Court and why a permit hasn't been issued. PBOT will look into it. Don said they are now close to issuing permits on Twombly and Seymour Court. Dave said it has been three years on the Seymour Trail. Debbie said PBOT is proposing that if 40% or more of the neighbors do not approve of a proposed trail they will work with those residents to address concerns. If the concerns cannot be addressed, the permit will not be issued.

Meeting with PBOT on PedPDX Pedestrian Plan maps and SWIM Planning: Don said he and Debbie met with staff at PBOT. Dave displayed a spreadsheet of trails and characteristics of those trails

recommended by SW Trails. Debbie said that PBOT said that once a permit is issued the trail stays permitted and we will not have to go through the process again.

Outreach to new SW Trails members: Debbie said we need to follow up on the people we meet at community fairs, etc., who show interest in SW Trails and want to get involved. Don suggested a welcome letter with a contact person listed so they can find out more about us and volunteer opportunities. Debbie said we need to worry about sustainability of our membership. Dave suggested having people “adopt” a trail. Don said he will call Chris to get the names of emails of people that have not been put in the database. We will have a task force on using email/surveys to reach out to increase involvement.

Shorter hikes: Debbie said several people have requested that SW Trails offer some shorter guided walks for people who don’t have either the time or ability to do our regular longer walks. She said a three-mile, one hour hike might be good. Sharon said it is important to have someone organize and supervise those walks; also, they should be separate hikes from our current monthly hike. Don said those hikes can offer a sense of community and social contact. Barbara Bowers said they should be on more gradual terrain without stairs, etc. **Lee made a motion that SW Trails explore and conduct shorter hikes. Don seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

Project status: Dave said the Bridlemile Trail work will start on Saturday and he hopes it will be done in about three weeks. He said everything has been submitted for the Seymour trail but a permit has not been issued. Dave said there has not been a permit issued for the Twombly trail.

Advocates Corner: Don said he has been talking to ODOT about changes needed on the 4T trail on the south side of Highway 26. Don suggested we talk to Commissioner Fish about this as he is the new Park’s commissioner. He also suggested talking to Senator Ginny Burdick and Representative Jennifer Williamson about it. Barbara Stedman suggested inviting Commissioner Eudaly for a walk around.

Other Business: Don talked about the budget for the SW 25th and Bertha Trail and the grand opening we had. He said it costs us about \$200 for the celebration. Don talked about the budget and actual costs for the trail. He pointed out that the lumber tariff increased the cost of the steps; however, we were \$96 better than the total budget due to less expense on other items. **Don moved that SW Trails purchase 300 4T trail patches. Dave seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

The next meeting Thursday, October 25

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29pm

Submitted by
Lee Buhler