

**URBAN ISSUES WORKING GROUP
Klamath Watershed Partnership
Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2009**

Attendees: Chris Leeseberg, Jeff Hansen, Ken Hay, Susan Honea, Dwight Long, Heather Ray, Anita Ward, Carrie Wittmer, Terry Wagstaff, Trisha Roninger
Staff: Katharine Jackson, Ginny Monroe
Guest: Patty Case, OSU, Healthy Active Klamath - Creating a More Livable Community.

The mission of the Urban Issues Working Group of the Klamath Watershed Partnership is to promote a healthy urban watershed through education, enhancement, protection and restoration.

GOALS and OBJECTIVES:

1. Protect and restore and create habitat

- A. Protect habitat along the Link River and Lake Ewauna
- B. Restore/Create Wetlands around Lake Ewauna Trail (LET)
- C. Manage uplands and drainage (juniper, erosion, storm water runoff)
- D. Enhance communication among partners

2. Educate the public (regarding watershed issues in the urban areas)

- A. Non-point source education
- B. Interpretive signage for Lake Ewauna Trail (OR 150?)
- C. Resource guides (green pages, KCEDA/Klamath Sustainable Communities)
- D. Establish the Partnership as a clearinghouse for information and resources to enhance the watershed

3. Develop a trail system (connect existing and develop new systems)

- A. Connect trails from the Running Y to Rails to Trails (Buck Ridge, Ridgewater, Moore Park, Link River, Wing Watchers, City Parks around Lake Ewauna, Conger Heights)
 - i. Research history of 4 years ago (minutes Sandra Z.)
 - ii. Reconvene group w/old and new players/stakeholders
- B. Develop design standards for various trail components (furnish, signs, lighting, surface)
- C. Obtain funds and specify participants

Today's Discussion:

Develop a trail system - Report from Ken Hay, City Parks

- **Lake Ewauna Trail**

City working with students in the Engineering Club (Engineers without Borders) at OIT to design the trail project from Veterans Park to Lot 7 of Timber Mill Shores, which is halfway through the trail project. The Club will make their presentation to the Planning Commission for approval sometime in April 2009. These standards will be required to be followed by any of the developers along that portion of Lake Ewauna Heather Ray, Fish and Wildlife and Jeff Ball, City of Klamath have also been involved in the development of these standards.

There will be two crossings along the pathway which will have culverts for fish passages. FWS and the Engineers looked at two different designs for the passages. There will also be low lighting installed in this area with 8 ft. wide trails and 18" shoulders on each side. The City is working with the Tribes to obtain a grant to assist with the geothermal installations.

- Ken also reported that he took a tour of the area past the wastewater treatment plant and he said he saw some vegetation which was encouraging. He said he had limited access to the area, but what he did see was some gorgeous Elm trees and berry bushes and some weeds, of course. There are some hazards still in the area that need to be cleaned up and there is a Shanty Town that has been there for over 30 years that needs to be addressed. This property was purchased by the city through eminent domain, however, this process is currently being litigated and they hope to have the issue resolved this summer. The City hopes to have the design of this area completed by this spring, with implementation this summer. Some of the work is dependent on receiving some of the grants.

Protect, restore and create habitat - Report from Heather Ray, US Fish & Wildlife Service

- The technical assistance application that was submitted to OWEB was awarded to Fish and Wildlife. The grant will assist with the habitat restoration along portions of Lake Ewauna. They hope to use this process as a demo and pilot on what can be done and hope to see it extended around Lake Ewauna. Katharine Jackson provided Heather with a copy of a report showing the project description which was implemented by Klamath Watershed Partnership, which will hopefully be useful for future projects.

Educate the Public - Ginny Monroe, Klamath Watershed Partnership

During the last UI Working Group Meeting there was a lot of discussion about future ideas for educating the public. Wanted to narrow it down to a couple of marketing ideas that can be accomplished by June 30, 2009, to use the approximately \$1500 that is remaining from the original money provided from the South Side Sanitation District. Susan Honea provided information on TV advertising. It would cost \$200 to develop the advertisement and \$400 for eight-30 second spots on TV. There was also discussion about designing a

display booth to use at different venues to educate the public. Those in attendance agreed that we would spend the remaining \$1500 on a display booth to be used at different venues and for marketing on TV to educate the public on non-point source pollution. Ginny Monroe will take the lead on both matters. If money is received from the SSSD for next year, we will readdress the other ideas on how to educate the public.

Ken Hay reported the Chamber of Commerce has a community calendar that the City uses for advertising any upcoming activities they have. Suggested we get a representative from the Chamber of Commerce to be a part of the UI working group and to use the calendar. Ginny said we had invited them in the past, and will invite them again. Suggested we also post on the Travel Klamath website.

Carrie Whittmer announced OIT is having an Earth Day event on Friday, April 24, 2009 from 10:00 – 3:00. Ginny Monroe will forward the information to the UI working group about the event.

Other

Patty Case, OSU made a presentation about Healthy Active Klamath – Creating a More Livable Community. They are holding a seminar on May 4-5 at the Community Health Education Center. Mark Fenton will be the keynote speaker addressing how to create a more livable community ranging from individual health choices to workplace policies and community design. Mark will lead a walk to identify elements in the environment that encourage or discourage walking. If interested in attending, contact Patty Case or Melissa Klegseth, 882-8846 or mklegseth@co.klamath.or.us.

Dwight Long talked about upcoming tree plantings in Klamath. Susan Honea provided additional details on the plantings. The dates are April 4, 18, 20 and 25th to plant 150 trees around town. You can purchase a tree for \$200 and your name on a plaque will be placed on the tree. Any monetary or tree donations will be accepted. They are also looking at getting children at schools involved in planting trees at their schools. Additional information can be found at www.klamathtreeleague.org.

NEXT MEETING:

Date: April 13, 2009
Time: 1-3pm
Place: USFWS Conference Room