



Meeting summary

Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Committee

September 26, 2023

Committee members in attendance

- Carrie Butler Port of Portland
- Jonathan Soll Metro
- Pat Jewett 40-Mile Loop Trust
- Troy Clark Audubon Society of Portland
- Ariana Scipioni Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Dale Svart (stand in for Eric Stern) Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes
- Eugenia Tam North Portland Neighbors

Committee members not in attendance

- Daryl Houtman City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services
- Max Samuelson Columbia Slough Watershed Council

Others in attendance

- Allan Schmidt Metro
 - Andrea Berkley Metro
 - Melanie Reinert Metro
 - Dana Visse Metro
 - Evan Ramsey Bonneville Environmental Foundation
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WELCOME

Carrie opened the meeting and asked for approval of the March 2023 minutes from the committee. Troy motioned to approve; Eugenia seconded.

Katie Weill is out, and Andrea presented the nutria update.

There is a contract with USDA wildlife services, and control started August 9 (39 animals with shooting and removal, work will resume this week). Work is concentrated by the water control structure, Bybee lake and channel nearby. Issues with mud at the site at both lakes. Setting five zones to inform the nutria written plan. Continuing control through winter and in spring when water is higher, and will follow them as they move around the site. Control is using waders and will switch to boats in winter.

Katie has a draft nutria plan and will incorporate information from this year into that and share results with the committee.

With 300-400 individuals in population at the moment, the target population is at 50 to minimize damage and impacts. Target is not eradication/zero. ODFW is also learning from the control efforts at the wetland.

Troy noted the change in target population and was in favor of this lower target, felt that population estimate was low. Jonathan noted there is no sampling or statistical estimate at this time, so this is an estimate and can follow up.

Andrea will follow up with Katy and share with committee. Jonathan can send out an email with the budget for this year and past numbers.

Andrea shared updates and budget numbers (see slides)

There was a paddle in May.

An interim plan was approved in June, to be posted on the Metro website. It guides work by Metro on owned and managed parcels. The IGA for the Smith Lake parcels is underway with City of Portland.

Aquatic weed control was done over the summer. Ludwigia concludes next week (started in July), and mud at site has hampered access. Late water suppressed large portions of site, and it only germinated this week. A new chemical mix is being used and mapped to compare efficacy for next season's treatment. Purple loosestrife and yellow flag iris are to be mapped by UC Davis lab, and there is woolgrass onsite in small quantities (*scirpus siphonifolius*).

Work is in maintenance stage for forested wetlands and Columbia sedge meadows, meant to give sedge plantings the best start.

A spring freshet led to water control structure area erosion while the structure was closed. This will be repaired in October (budget pending, new project), and the structure should be open for future freshets.

The sheet pile wall project is implementing in November/December (inserting plastic sheet piles into road/berm on either side of water control structure). Sealing will prevent seepage and burrowing. An 80-year life span will reduce risk of seepage or burrowing causing berm failure. The wall is not visible (under gravel and can be driven over as at landfill edge).

St. John's Prairie maintenance not started yet, awarded \$141k from OWEB for support. AC support helped. Based on capacity, this will start next fiscal year, lowering the \$100k accordingly.

Dana Visse (Senior Climate analyst at Metro) and Evan Ramsey (Bonneville Environmental Foundation) joined to present on solar development possible at St. John's prairie.

Metro is reviewing greenhouse gas inventory and opportunities for emission reduction and reached 2025 targets by moving towards renewable energy for buildings. Net zero is sought by 2050, requiring more aggressive action.

Metro uses 22M kilowatt hours annually: 10% energy generated on site at OCC array and the Zoo array. There is a desire to increase generation of renewables.

1. Generate on site when possible.
2. Subscribe to community renewable energy projects.
3. Purchase renewable energy (note out of state purchase loses efficiency over distance)
4. Utilize clean grid power

The team provided a brief history of community solar projects.

Oregon Shines approached Metro to become a subscriber. They build and get subscribers, the energy goes onto the grid, and Metro receives discount and could save \$232k over life of contract.

Possible host locations for Metro include Irving Street Garage, the EXPO roof and the St. Johns Landfill.

Evan gave an overview of Bonneville Environmental Foundation [BEF] work using MOUs to site new community solar facilities. Solar power can have more equitable benefit outcomes than in the past when incentivized by state and federal governments through tax incentives. They have focused on expanding benefits from solar to lower income household and communities of color, and subscriptions are portable when moving, transient, renting, etc. BEF partnership examples include Goodling Annex, Jim and Salles Place Apts. and Saginaw Mobile Home Park.

Metro new projects could have Metro and low-income households benefits through funding sources (PCEF, grants coming, EPA grants, Oregon DEQ climate protection program) achieve clean energy and equitable benefits.

Reasons to consider St. Johns Landfill include: proximity to electricity users (local distribution grid means no transmission requirement), 238 acres, capped landfill can be permitted, site can be moved to avoid conservation or transit efforts, history of disinvestment in communities in this area, and possibility to incorporate pollinator habitat in array.

Metro's subscription maximum would be 40% with the remaining serving low-income households over 20-year period.

Sample layouts of footprint in SW portion of landfill were shown with a 5-acre example.

Questions and concerns

This is a possible conflict of usage for the landfill. Committee have to consider how much would be utilized if we wanted to proceed.

Is there research of extended impacts beyond the site footprint to birds and wildlife considering the large reflective surface?

Solar cells are dark blue, not a bright reflection which could cause related concerns.

Research regarding conservation efforts is an unknown. Consider if the low-lying panels could provide nesting habitat.

Would road upgrades be needed for servicing the site?

The planned bridge replacement, and the site could be managed without new road construction or impacts to cap of the landfill. Service is not routinely needed ("Set it and forget it"). Ongoing activity is relatively minimal other than weed management. This project could self-fund its own weed management or fund outside footprint potentially. If the bridge project did not go forward, the materials could be brought in small loads instead of semis.

What is the timeline for funding possibilities?

Anytime between now and medium term for this project, as the funding opportunities are ongoing. It takes about two years from concept development to having a live project.

A planning grant could identify if possible. Look towards end of this year for potential grant applications.

There are 30MW of capacity remaining in the PGE community solar program. Grants start in November and are due in January.

Members expressed they were not supportive of sacrificing urban natural area acreage for power generation and suggested focusing on flat roofs in the surrounding area instead.

The challenges of siting on roofs/lots were noted (disinterested owners, etc.) Members suggested the Port of Portland as a contact of influence over those areas, which BEF is exploring.

There are potential challenges with the liner and gas movement/capture issues. Electricity would need to be above ground. Could it be located near flare facility to prevent the habitat impact and be near transport?

The west side is closest to the utility substation (important from a cost standpoint). This is flexible, and increased costs are not insurmountable. Other siting is possible. Solar racking is ballasted and weighted, not subsurface. The substation is across Columbia.

There are other examples of landfills becoming brightfields for solar generation and brownfield funding is available.

Location can consider visitor sightline/visibility impacts.

We don't yet know actual impacts to grassland birds, pollinators, other wildlife or the impacts of performing restoration around the panels. Time and research are needed before a determination, and a planning grant would be a good opportunity to have someone do that for us.

Solar is not a good use for natural area, a prairie attracting grassland birds. Pollinators can coexist well with solar farms, but it changes precipitation and can change soil bacteria. More study is needed before an educated decision, but first impression doesn't align with current goals.

Jerry Thompson at ODFW could be a resource on these topics.

Andrea concluded her presentation on the conservation projects *(refer to slides)*

Emerald Ash borer is coming and already in Forest Grove. Multiple agencies are working to slow spread but can't eradicate. It will arrive at Smith and Bybee eventually, and we can plan ahead now. There will be cascading impacts to water quality, wood quality, habitat and visitor experience. Consider how much and when the committee wants to be involved in the process. There is stable funding to act early

Expect loss of ash canopy, though small-statured ash may persist. Likely shift to young scrubby ash and spirea landscape. Blackberry and canary grass will take advantage, less perching and leaf litter. Bottomland forest/forested wetland areas on map will be impacted. Staff would like to plan this window for adaptation at this site, figure out where allow canopy to be lost, and convert to scrub wetland or get new canopy species in place.

Question to committee: Do you prefer a subcommittee to help draft plan or prefer for Metro to plan and the committee review and commit to work?

Plan 4 areas:

1. Prevention/preparation (stop planning, map old trees, seed collection, decide new desired conditions, EAB adaptation plan, peer review) Metro plan would be shared out, new
2. Early detection (trap trees in place, staff training, systematic site checks)

3. Slowing the spread: SLAM (create trap trees to destroy borers, biocontrol release wasps, systemic insecticide to save specific trees- requires repeated and ongoing care)
4. Adaptation (convert areas to new vegetation types, alternative canopy species, change water management, experiment and collaborate).

Carrie moved to the charter and bylaws discussion (documents were shared prior to meeting).

The requirements for an advisory committee are less formal and have more flexibility if they advise Parks and Nature rather than Council.

Formal Council advisory committees have formal meeting rules. The current bylaws are in violation. There was a misunderstanding that the last bylaw update had addressed this and changed to advisory to Parks and Nature. This was missed. Based on current bylaws, OMA sees this committee as advisory to Council.

The committee needs to decide if being advisory to Parks and Nature (flexibility of meetings, decisions and memberships) is preferable to being advisory to Council (members appointed by Council, tighten up procedures for meetings, communications, processes for decisions).

The committee should re-read the documents and consider options for more discussion. Language of first section should be clarified.

The committee has operated as advisory to Parks and Nature.

Staff need to research whether Council needs to approve any changes.

Allan shared updates on the trail project and the Columbia Bridge

Taking project to land use review with City of Portland this month or next, and after that will preload property with soil over time to compress (will sit for some time as prep for future construction).

Columbia Bridge in discussion for change with Metro/City of Portland and directors regarding IGA. Portland looking at other crossing options (at grade possible for cost reasons), but a bridge is still the preferred alignment from ODOT perspective. Will return to group with updates.

Allan shared that Callahan of City of Portland will meet committee when the IGA is in place and it is Portland's project. He will then be the contact and face of efforts moving forward.

A question was raised over whether language had changed in the CNRP or the interim master plan, but staff believed it had remained the same.

Other topics discussed

A new property owner near the site has left decking material and paint, brushes and needs to clean up the area.

Metro can reach out to new owner and go from there.

Staff confirmed Metro will have to vacate offices by landfill bridge which was disappointing to some members.

Courtney can come in person to provide an update. BES leased to Multnomah County starting next year. (June 2024)

A new auto gate was installed in spring.

There was a small fire at the site (likely started with a cigarette), and some pines near the entrance might die, requiring a replacement plan.

GOALS FOR NEXT MEETING AND WRAP-UP

- Staff follow-up on nutria plan and budget details.
- Further discussion on planning grant or ruling on solar?
- The bylaws and committee function purposes will be discussed in more depth at November meeting. Parks staff also researching.
- Committee will ponder Andrea's questions regarding ash borer planning for November meeting.
- Metro reach out to nearby landowner regarding site cleanup.

Meeting adjourned early at 7:13p.m.

Meeting chat:

18:23:19 From Pat Jewett 40 Mile Loop To Everyone:

I agree Jonathan

18:25:46 From Carrie Butler (she, her), Port of Portland To Everyone:

Replying to "I agree Jonathan"

Me too Pat!

18:28:53 From Dale Svart To Everyone:

Is it a wildlife area or not?

18:31:24 From Allan Schmidt (He/Him) To Everyone:

Have you spoken with Bybee Lakes Hope Center

18:32:09 From Evan Ramsey - BEF To Everyone:

We are assisting Bybee Lakes Hope Center with solar on their roof, they received a PCEF grant

18:32:43 From Allan Schmidt (He/Him) To Everyone:

Reacted to "We are assisting Byb..." with 👍

18:35:58 From Allan Schmidt (He/Him) To Everyone:

I have a few updates on the projects too can be quick

18:36:10 From Carrie Butler (she, her), Port of Portland To Everyone:

Reacted to "I have a few updates..." with 👍

**BYLAWS OF
SMITH AND BYBEE WETLANDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
2023 REVISED WITH COMMENTS**

ARTICLE I — NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1: Name

The name of the Committee is the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Committee (“Committee”), a standing advisory committee to the Metro Council on matters relating to the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area (SBWNA).

Section 2: Purpose

The purpose of the Committee is to maintain the vision established by the 1993 Natural Resource Management Plan, the 2011 Comprehensive Natural Resource Management Plan (CNRP) and Metro’s 2023 Interim Master Plan for the SBWNA. The Committee shall advise on the implementation of the Interim Master Plan and provide guidance, partnership, and assistance on implementing the plan. The Committee’s responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

1. Provide leadership and response to area land use actions that may affect the SBWNA;
2. Support the financial strategy by developing partnerships, advocating for grants and otherwise leveraging the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Fund (the Fund);
3. Communicate and serve as a liaison to adjacent property owners and stakeholders to strengthen community involvement in the SBWNA;
4. Review projects, monitor results, and correlate to stated Master Plan objectives;
5. Recommend and/or review properties to be added to the SBWNA based on their environmental, educational, or recreational value;
6. Support educational and community outreach events promoting SBWNA as a unique community resource;
7. Review, discuss, and advise Metro on the annual budget for the Fund, the annual work plan and work plan budget; and
8. Serve as a sounding board for management actions that are outside the annual work plan and have an impact on either conservation goals or visitor experience.
9. Participate in the update process for the Master Plan every 10 years or otherwise whenever major updates occur as the chief sponsor and liaison for projects slated to occur in the SBWNA in the new period.

ARTICLE II — MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership

The Committee may include, but not be limited to, representatives of the following organizations:

1. City of Portland, Portland Parks and Recreation
2. City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services
3. Port of Portland

4. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
5. Metro
6. Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes
7. 40-Mile Loop Land Trust
8. Audubon Society of Portland
9. North Portland Neighborhood Services
10. St. Johns Neighborhood Association
11. Columbia Slough Watershed Council
12. A representative of recreational interests
13. A representative of industries adjacent to the greater Smith and Bybee Wetlands area
14. A representative of private landowners within the greater Smith and Bybee Wetlands area

Section 2: Membership Rights and Voting Status

1. Appointment of Representative and Voting Status: Each stakeholder organization is responsible for appointing one voting member to represent the organization's interest. Each Committee member is entitled to one (1) vote on all issues presented at regular and special meetings.
2. Appointment of Alternate: Each stakeholder organization is urged to appoint an alternate representative who may, at their discretion, attend Committee meetings but may not vote if the primary voting member is present.
3. Absences and Revoking of Voting Status: If an organization's representative or alternate to the Committee has more than two un-notified absences in a twelve month period, the Committee may revoke stakeholders voting status, effective within 30 days of written notification.
4. Request for Reconsideration: The stakeholder organization may request reconsideration of the decision to revoke voting status, indicating extenuating circumstances and forwarding the name of a person to serve as a new voting member representing the interests of the stakeholder organization. The written request must be addressed to the Committee Chair and received within 30 days of the notification letter regarding revocation of voting status. The Committee will review the circumstances resulting in the loss of voting status. The decision to revoke can be either confirmed or rescinded at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee.
5. Balance of Stakeholder Representation: If either a stakeholder organization requests to relinquish voting status or the Committee revokes the voting status of a stakeholder organization, the Committee can decide to approach other potential stakeholders to ensure a balanced representation of interests.

Section 3: Resignation of Stakeholder Organization

Any stakeholder organization established under *Article II, Section 1* of the Bylaws may resign from the Committee by filing a written resignation with the Chair. Notwithstanding the stakeholder organizations identified in the Interim Master Plan and set out under *Article II Section 1*, organizations may be removed from the membership list of these Bylaws, thereby reducing quorum requirements.

Section 4: Conflict of Interest

In the interest of transparency, voting members must disclose to the Committee if the representative's organization or the voting member, personally, may derive benefit from an

action taken by the Committee. All Committee members are considered “public officials” and must comply with the Oregon Code of Ethics.

Section 5: Public Representation of Committee Decisions

Public testimony and/or written representation of Committee recommendations and decisions on behalf of the Committee must be undertaken by the Chair or voting member(s) designated by the Chair and/or the Committee.

ARTICLE III — MEETINGS

Section 1: Meetings

1. Regular meetings of the members will be held at least three (3) times during the fiscal year, at a time and place designated by Metro. Meetings may occur more frequently as needed.
2. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or one-third of the Committee voting members.

Section 2: Oregon Public Meetings Law

The Committee must comply with Oregon Public Meetings Law.

Section 3: Notice of Meetings

1. Notice of each meeting will be given to each voting member and organizations, agencies or individuals who have requested prior notice, by mail or email, not less than two weeks prior to the meeting. Metro will post notice of Committee meetings in compliance with Oregon Public Meetings Law. Meeting dates and notes will be available on Metro’s webpage for the Committee: <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/regional-leadership/metro-advisory-committees/smith-and-bybee-wetlands-advisory-committee>

Section 4: Quorum

A quorum constitutes one half plus one of the voting members and must be present for motions to pass and Committee transactions to take place.

Section 5: Voting

The Committee strives for consensus. However, failing that, all issues voted on are decided by a simple majority of those present at the meeting in which the vote takes place, provided a quorum of voting members is in attendance. If the vote is tied, a second vote may be held. If a tie remains after a second vote, the issue under consideration may carry over to the next regular meeting or a Special Meeting may be requested if the issue requires timely attention.

Section 6: Minutes of Meeting

A record of all decisions and discussions by the Committee must be kept by Metro, including a record of votes taken. Minutes must be distributed to Committee members within two weeks of the meeting for review and correction, if needed.

Section 7: Non-Voting Participation

The Committee will encourage participation by community members, technical advisors, and interested parties desiring to contribute to discussion on issues before the Committee. Discussion participants do not have voting rights.

Section 8: Time-Sensitive Decisions and Electronic Polling

1. In the event an issue arises which requires a decision by the Committee prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting and a Special Meeting is not deemed necessary, the Chair may distribute information by email to voting members. Information must include:

- a) A brief description of the issue and the time-sensitive necessity for a Committee decision;
- b) Detailed information of the issue and where additional information may be found;
- c) A description of the range of actions that may be considered, including that no action be taken; and
- d) A deadline for Committee members to respond to the Chair with their preferred action; Committee members have a minimum of one week to submit their preferred action.

2. The Chair or a Committee member designated by the Chair must inform Committee members of the results of the electronic polling and proceed to carry out the preferred action with the proviso that the decision be ratified by a motion at the next Committee meeting at which a quorum is present.

3. Exception: If the Committee delegates to the Chair and/or a designated voting member to act on an issue on behalf of the Committee, the Chair and/or designate may present recommendations, opinions and/or positions without referral to electronic polling set out above.

Section 9: Electronic Meetings, Email Discussions and Committee Decisions

1. Electronic Meetings: Electronic (virtual) meetings are permitted and open to other members of the public to access and actively participate. Virtual meeting links will be available on Metro's webpage for the Committee: <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/regional-leadership/metro-advisory-committees/smith-and-bybee-wetlands-advisory-committee>

2. Email Discussions: Except as provided for in Article III, Section 8, email discussions between meetings can only be for the purpose of sharing information and raising issues.

ARTICLE IV — ELECTION PROCEDURES FOR OFFICERS

Section 1: Terms

The Chair and Vice-Chair ("Officers") serve two-year terms and are eligible for re-election for up to three consecutive terms. A representative may serve again as Chair or Vice-Chair after an interim of two years out of office. Each term shall start in the third quarter of an even-numbered year.

Section 2: Officer Elections

Officers are elected by a simple majority of the Committee present at the second quarterly meeting of the year.

Section 3: Election Procedures

Nominations of Officers are made from the floor by any voting member of standing at the second quarterly meeting of the year.

Section 4: Officers and Duties

Officer duties are as follows:

1. The Chair must convene regularly scheduled Committee meetings, and preside or arrange for other members of the Committee to preside at each meeting in the following order: (a) Vice-Chair, (b) other voting members of standing; and
2. The Vice-Chair must provide support to Special Committees created by the Committee to address matters set out in *Article V, Section 1*.

Section 5: Vacancies

When an Officer vacates their position, the Committee will receive nominations for the position from the floor followed by an election by simple majority of the Committee members present. Vacancies are filled to the end of the vacating officer's term.

Section 6: Release from Office

An Officer may be released from office if there are more than two un-notified absences from Committee meetings in a year. The remainder of the Officer's term may be filled by procedures set out in Article IV Section 5.

ARTICLE V — SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Section 1: Special Committee Formation

The Committee may create Special Committees as needed to address specific issues such as fundraising, community outreach, trails, planning, enhancement projects, research, and data collection, etc. Special Committees will choose their conveners. The Special Committee must report to the Committee regularly, summarize findings, and present recommendations for the Committee's review and decision.

Section 2: Dissolution of Special Committee

Special Committees dissolve upon completion of the assigned task.

**ARTICLE VI — ADMINISTRATIVE INTERACTIONS
BETWEEN COMMITTEE AND METRO**

Section 1: Cooperative Relationship between Metro and Committee

The Committee is a valuable asset to Metro's management of the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area. Metro may utilize the Committee as a sounding board for management actions which are outside the annual work plan and which have an impact on conservation goals and/or

the visitor experience. The Metro Parks and Nature Science and Stewardship Division Manager or the Natural Resources Scientist who leads management of SBWNA will represent Metro on the Committee and bring forth all information to the Committee as indicated in the Smith and Bybee Advisory Committee Communications Plan. The Metro Parks and Nature Science and Stewardship Division Manager or the Natural Resources Scientist will work with the Chair to determine if permit requests or other projects outside of the annual work plan have impacts to conservation goals and/or visitor experience and require review by the Committee. When time permits, such proposals will be presented at a Committee meeting for discussion and comment. If management actions that are outside of annual work plan or have impacts to conservation goals and/or visitor experience need to be resolved before the next Committee meeting, the Metro Parks and Nature Science and Stewardship Division Manager or Natural Resources Scientist will collaborate with the Committee Chair to determine a course of action and present that action to the Committee at the next meeting.

Section 2: Actions Requiring Committee Review

Actions that require Committee review include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Changes to trail routes;
2. Changes to the bird blinds or view points;
3. Special-use permit requests that would substantively alter vegetation or the landscape;
4. Special-use permit requests that might draw visitor attention, such as setting up highly visible research plots, exhibits, etc.; and
5. Special-use permit requests for large events, such as paddle tours of the wetlands, running races, a fishing derby, festivals and similar activities/events.

Section 3: Actions Not Requiring Committee Review

Actions that do not need Committee review include, but are not limited to, those listed below. However, Metro staff may present information about actions, policies, and/or proposals voluntarily for the Committee's review.

1. General maintenance or restoration actions identified in the Interim Master Plan;
2. Special-use permits for education, research or tours that would not have substantial impact to the resource or would not be unusually visible;
3. Replacement of infrastructure that is a safety concern;
4. Addition of barriers to protect the resource, such as stopping vehicles from illegally accessing the property;
5. Maintaining the water control structure;
6. Adding rule signage or posting information at entry points; and
7. Volunteer work parties.

Section 4: Standing Reports to Committee

The Committee will receive and discuss reports and information with Metro staff responsible for managing Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area based on priorities established by the Interim Plan. Information provided will, at minimum, include:

1. First Quarter Meeting
 - a) Discuss agenda items for the coming year;
 - b) Presentation and discussion of Committee's finalized project priorities and

funding strategies for the coming year. If the timing for filing of the grant proposals does not coincide with the first quarter Committee meeting, discussion will be deferred to a subsequent Committee meeting;

c) Update on Metro staffing, organizational chart changes, and staff contact list; and

d) Update, discussion and comments on proposed projects, permit requests or other changes that may affect the wetlands.

2. Second Quarter Meeting

a) Presentation, discussion, and comments on the work plan for the coming field season by the Metro scientist responsible for Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area;

b) Presentation of the current year's programming plan by the Metro naturalist assigned to Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area; and

c) Update, discussion and comments on proposed projects, permits or other changes that may affect the wetlands.

3. Third Quarter Meeting

a) Presentation update by the Metro scientist for Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area on the work completed during the spring and summer field seasons;

b) Presentation, discussion, and comments on draft work plan for next year's restoration actions including what grant funding will be pursued; and

c) Update, discussion and comments on proposed projects, permits or other changes that may affect the wetlands.

4. Fourth Quarter Meeting

a) Discuss project planning and funding priorities for the coming year; b) Discuss other matters including, but not limited to, initiatives and/or outstanding issue the Committee agrees to pursue; and

c) Identify and assign tasks and responsibilities to achieve goals.

ARTICLE VII — AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Bylaw Review

Bylaws must be reviewed by the Committee every three years beginning in 2026.

Section 2: Amendments to the Bylaws

Proposed amendments must be submitted to the Chair to be sent out with regular Committee announcements.

Section 3: Approval of Amendments

Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of voting members present at the meeting, with the concurrence of Metro.

2023 SBWAC Bylaws Changes Pros and Cons DRAFT

Article.Section...	Suggested Change	Pros	Cons
I.1 Name and II.1.5	SBWAC advises Metro Parks and Nature rather than Metro Council.	Committee has a more direct line for input at SBWNA. Committee has much more flexibility in how it operates.	Advisory Committee may feel they have less access to decision making power. Requires consent of Council - although Metro can handle that work. Metro staff may no longer be voting members.
I.2 Purpose	Change CNRP to Interim Master Plan throughout	N/A	N/A
II.1.13 & 14 Membership	With the change to Interim Master Plan, there are two boundaries: 1. Greater Smith & Bybee area (CNRP boundary with multiple landowners), and 2. New SBWNA boundary including Metro land and lands under agreement between Metro and other agencies. In the bylaws, we propose to use "the greater Smith and Bybee Wetlands area".	Consistent with CNRP. Less restrictive for membership recruitment than new SBWNA boundary.	
II.1.13 & 14 Membership	Add a stated process for those listed groups to become recognized members of the Committee: to be included as a voting member of the advisory committee, gov't/group's representative must notify Metro of its interest to participate.	Adds transparency, clarifies process	
II.2.2 Membership Rights and Voting Status	Appointed alternates entitled to vote	Provides a quorum for voting purposes. Common practice in committees.	Shift from current practice.
III.1 Regular Meetings	"Regular meetings of the members will be held at least threes (3) time during the fiscal year" rather than quarterly.	Retains current practice but adds flexibility.	

Article.Section...	Suggested Change	Pros	Cons
III.1 Regular Meetings	Meeting time/place will be designated by Metro rather than the Chair	This is consistent with current practice and in compliance with Oregon Public Meetings Law.	
III.2 Oregon Public Meetings Law	Simplify to "The Committee must comply with Oregon Public Meetings Law". Section would be deleted if SBWAC advises Metro Parks and Nature versus Metro Council.	This is consistent with current practice and compliance with Oregon Public Meetings Law.	
III.8 Time-Sensitive Decisions and Electronic Polling	This section should be deleted if SBWAC continues to advise Metro Council as it does not comply with Oregon Public meeting laws.	Keeps bylaws in compliance with Oregon Public Meetings Law. Could keep and revise if SBWAC advises Metro Parks and Nature versus Metro Council.	Reduces Committee flexibility to collaborate and make decisions via email. Significant shift from current practice.
III.9.2 Email Discussions	Delete, does not allow public participation; not in compliance with Oregon Public Meetings Law.	This could remain if SBWAC advises Metro Parks and Nature.	Reduces Committee flexibility to collaborate and make decisions via email. Significant shift from current practice.
IV.1 Terms	Extend Chair and Vice Chair terms to 3 consecutive 2-year terms for a total of up to 6 years.	Consistent with current practice. Can be challenging to get volunteers for these positions. Two-year terms still allow flexibility for more frequent change in leadership.	
VI.4.1.a Standing Reports to Committee, First Quarter Meeting	Drop yearly retreat and replace with "discuss agenda items for the coming year"	Consistent with current practice.	
VI.4.3.a Standing Reports to Committee, Third Quarter Meeting	Change "State of Wetlands" report to "Update"	Consistent with current practice.	
VII.3 Approval of Amendments	Add "with the concurrence of Metro"	Keeps bylaws in compliance with existing laws.	