



**MINUTES FOR A MEETING OF THE
ASHLAND FOREST LANDS COMMISSION**

Tuesday, April 11th, 2017

5:30PM to 7:30PM

Fire Station #2 Conference Room

1860 Ashland Street

I. CALL TO ORDER: 5:37 PM

Frank Betlejewski, Chris Chambers, Luke Brandy, Matt Miller, John Williams, Jill Mullen-Feeley, Nathan Lewis, Marty Main, Alison Lerch

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Jim Folkerston

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Add page numbers

Trails A 4th sentence, line 4: reference Ashland Boy Scout Troop #112

B burn summary: Single small i, small I, change to a,b,c,d

B ii: Add Ashland Forest Plan Maps to the report

It was done by Plant Association Group (PAG)

D: Spell Jabberwocky correctly

B ii: check on the name of the burn unit

Change Tom to Tom Murphy

Acid Castle Rocks Park

D: Trails and Rec: Mike Faught (Public Works Director)

D: Trails i: Stadnisky

D i: Oredson-Todd

John Williams motions to approve, Matt Miller seconds, passed.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

V. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

VI. BUSINESS

A. TREX program (5 min)

- i. A Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (TREX) is occurring in Ashland May 1st-May 13th. Participants are staying at the SOU dormitory and are fed at the dining hall. 40 out-of-towners and 10 local Cadre, including participants from Ireland, Canada, and Guanajuato. The rest of the participants are from across the United States as far as Maine. There are also students from Oregon State University and Humboldt State. The goal of TREX is to bring a diverse group of people together to support local prescribed burning. Two spots are for Ashland Fire & Rescue firefighters. Units are identified in the AFR project as well as City units. One or two private properties (McKinley on GreenSprings and one on Emigrant Lake). The property near Emigrant Lake is within an oak woodland area. Pile burns are still happening today. Training days are Monday and Tuesday

after they arrive. Burning begins on Wednesday May 3rd. This is supported by the Nature Conservancy. The City of Ashland put in \$12,000 for this event. A new funding agreement for 2018 for \$40,000 has been approved. Citizens can come out and take a tour. There is a FEMO (Fire Effects Monitors) portion of the TREX which is unique.

B. Trails and Recreation (18 min)

- i. Brandy: Ashland Trails Master Plan. The last two meetings were canceled, but the update is still going through the process. This will be a full update of the plan. The goal is to be completed in 2017. Brandy will miss the Trails Master Plan Committee meetings during the summer but Jensen will attend.
- ii. Mullen-Feeley: Two temporary signs were put up at the intersection of Bandersnatch/Red Queen/Snark. Chris Chambers, Jeff and Torsten are working on this issue. Jabberwocky signs should be up soon. Small burn piles were completed at N. Mountain Park, Lithia Park and Siskiyou Mountain Park. A few beetle killed trees were removed from Lithia Park but that number is decreasing. Replaced crib log stair on the trail by the Lithia Park swim reservoir. Stadnisky work party with 11 volunteers plus Park staff included pruning for safety for sight distance plus water bar creation. Seven college women came for an alternative spring break trip and continued where the corrections crew stopped, completing 3 more acres clearing duff around the trees. Talking to lawyers about the Adopt a Trail volunteer program. Jeff met with Mike Faught about trails that access the water treatment plant. Bottom of Bandersnatch will not be changed at all and the Art trail can stay. Jabberwocky Trail is now open and taking some pressure off the closed area.

C. City and Parks Underburn Planning (10 min)

- i. Marty and Tom Murphy are finishing burn plans in Siskiyou Mountain Park and four additional burn units. The goal is to complete all plans by the end of the week. An invitation to bid on the underburning went out and Grayback Forestry was the only entity to bid. This is a three year contract. This project comes with a high mobilization cost and a 96 hour full mop up. Marty is working on the Epstein property adjacent to Siskiyou Mountain Park which will combine burns and will burn across boundaries. Lomakatsi has been burning piles at Acid Castle Rocks for 3 days, completing 15 acres so far out of 42 total acres.

D. AFR and AFAR Project Update (10 min)

- i. AFR: The current helicopter is the lowest capacity machine but is very noisy. The Blackhawk (Blue and Orange) will be coming in with 8,000lb capacity. 20% done on the 400 acres. TREX will burn in AFR. Burn season will go on as long as we have conditions, gaining acres by the Skyline Mine area near No Candies Trail.
- ii. AFAR: Natural Resource Conservation Service and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) are the primary funders. 1,100 acres (private and city land) are under agreement under the OWEB grant. Properties included in this project are strategic. The Forest Service has allocated an additional \$1.2 million on the landscape, funding 2018 TREX, burning, thinning, monitoring and community engagement.

E. Meeting Process

- i. Frank sent out the Draft Meeting Management document and is looking to adopt a structure for presenters.

*John made a motion to approve the Draft Meeting Management document,
Luke seconds, all in favor.*

VII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

**VIII. REVIEW AND SET COMMISSION CALENDAR / NEXT MEETING
AGENDA**

A. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting is May 9th, 2017

B. Agenda Items: Leave No Trace (Torsten)

IX. ADJOURN: 6:50 PM

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Public Works Office at 488-5587 (TTY phone number 1 800 735 2900). Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).