

Neskowin Citizen Advisory Committee

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Summary Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2023

Full Video Recording: <https://youtu.be/KaCcKtTkeKw>

Chairman, Mark Everett, convened the virtual meeting of the Neskowin Citizen Advisory Committee (NCAC) at approximately 10:02am via a Zoom conference. Officers present were Chair Mark Everett, Vice Chair Alex Clark, Treasurer Chris Silkowski and Secretary Jeff Weitzel.

Participants

Forty-two persons attended via zoom. (Screenshots capture attendees at the start of the meeting, but more attendees joined later.)

Participants (39)

Search

Jeff Weitzel (Host, me) Unmute More	Hillary 🔇 📺
Chris Silkowski (Co-host) 🔇 📺	J. Gary McClain 🔇 📺
17143498090 📞	Joanie Blum 🔇 📺
Harvey Rubinstein 🔇 📺	K Buza 🔇 📺
Mark Everett 🔇 📺	Kathleen Ruby 🔇 📺
wyatt angelo 🔇 📺	Kyle B 🔇 📺
Alexander Clark 🔇 📺	liz vitale 🔇 📺
Alexis Tate 🔇 📺	Lynne Wintermute 🔇 📺
Alicia Matheson 🔇 📺	Maria McGarry-Barnes 🔇 📺
Anne Siep 🔇 📺	Mark Ask to Unmute More
B. Allen 🔇 📺	Michael Beachley 🔇 📺
Barbara Triplett 🔇 📺	mike churchill 🔇 📺
Bill Busch 🔇 📺	Nancy Mason Vandell 🔇 📺
Candice Miller 🔇 📺	Nena Bamer 🔇 📺
Carol Hoke 🔇 📺	Phil Schmidt 🔇 📺
David Benneth 🔇 📺	Randall Koch 🔇 📺
Gary Billingsley 🔇 📺	Roger Wicklund 🔇 📺
	Skip Patten 🔇 📺

A screenshot of a Zoom meeting participant list. At the top, a grey bar shows 'SS Susan Schomburg' with a blue 'Ask to Unmute' button and a blue 'More' dropdown menu. Below this, four participants are listed: 'TP Tom Prehoditch', 'TS Tom Siep', 'TH Tracey Hauth', and 'VP Vickie Prehoditch'. Each name is preceded by a circular icon with their initials. To the right of each name are two icons: a red slash through a speaker icon and a square icon with a slash through it.

Conflicts of Interest

Mark asked the officers to state any conflicts of interest they had with items on the agenda. None were reported.

Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes June 10th, 2023

31 votes were cast to approve the June 10th meeting minutes. None were cast against.

Treasurer's Report

Chris reported that the NCAC's account balance is \$1054, reflecting a \$50 charge from Zoom for the large number of attendees at the June 10th meeting.

Review of Oregon Public Meeting Law

Mark shared with the membership that the officers would be adhering to Oregon Public Meeting Law going forward, which means that any meeting of three or more officers, "in any way, email, in person, phone, etc" must be held as a public meeting conforming with OPML. For that reason, the officers will sometimes call special meetings to complete NCAC business.

Ordinance 84 Update

Mark shared that the Board of County Commissioners passed three measures affecting Short Term Rentals, and that links to these measures are available on the NCAC website. We have called a Special Meeting on August 22nd, at which Sarah Absher will present these changes.

Nomination and Approval Vote for Bylaws Committee

Mark introduced this item and recommended all six candidates as "outstanding candidates, who have varied experience in Bylaws involvement, are passionate about the community, and want to serve the community in some way."

Mark explained that the current Bylaws allow for a Bylaws committee of no more than five members, and that the membership would be asked to vote on a maximum of five candidates.

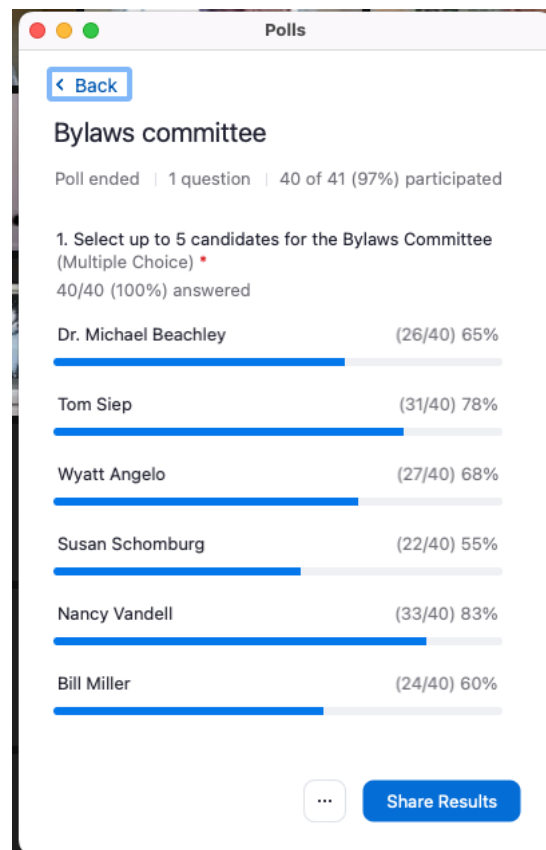
Michael Beachley, Tom Siep, Wyatt Angelo, Susan Schomburg, and Nancy Vandell introduced themselves to the meeting. Jeff read Bill Miller's written statement aloud.

Jeff put forth the suggestion that, as all six candidates are well qualified, the newly seated Bylaws committee recommend a Bylaws amendment to increase the size of Bylaws committee to six, and that all six candidates could attend Bylaws committee meetings in the meantime. Tom Prehoditch spoke in support of this idea.

40 persons cast votes in the Bylaws Committee Poll.

Dr. Michael Beachley received 26 votes.
Tom Siep received 31 votes.
Wyatt Angelo received 27 votes.
Susan Schomburg received 22 votes.
Nancy Vandell received 33 votes.
Bill Miller received 24 votes.

The five members seated on the Bylaws committee are Michael Beachley, Tom Siep, Wyatt Angelo, Nancy Vandell, and Bill Miller.



Discussion of a Proposed Community Plan Steering Committee

Jeff spoke over [these slides](#). He introduced the idea of a Steering Committee for the Community Plan modeled on the STR subcommittee as a solution to provide continuity and accountability to the community plan effort over time. The NCAC will hold a Special Meeting on September 12th to gather input from the community about this steering committee, in particular the question of what interests in Neskowin are important to represent on the committee, and what the committee's "Charter" should be. Jeff invited NCAC members interested in serving on the steering committee to attend the September 12th meeting and announce their interest. Jeff also offered some ideas as starting points for the charter (see slides).

Jeff also solicited feedback from the attendees about how best to render the inputs from the September 12th meeting into a working committee.

Alexis Tate shared the opinion that the Bylaws should be updated to improve the way that committees are formed before forming a committee of this kind.

Alexis also asked NCAC members with knowledge of the community plan process about what the expectation is when community plans are updated.

Guy Sievert shared his experiences on the planning commission, and as an observer during the previous community plan process. In response to a follow up question from Alexis, Guy shared that during the previous community plan process, there was very little guidance from the county.

Tom Siep shared the preference that the Steering Committee not wait "six months" to get started.

Ran Koch shared that Sarah Absher has expressed an intent to be very involved in the community plan.

Hillary Gibson spoke in support of using "member representatives" in forming the community plan steering committee.

Jeff reintroduced his question in simplified form. What would work better, for the Chair to choose the committee based on input received from the community, or for the community to vote on the members of the committee?

Alexis Tate shared her experience on the STR committee, that the chair asked for volunteers to meet specific community interests, and felt that was a successful model.

Hillary Gibson shared an opinion agreeing with Alexis Tate, and said that allowing the community to vote on the members of a committee might result in "having people on the committee who have never been to an NCAC meeting".

Tom Prehoditch expressed an opinion that it would be a mistake to allow the community to vote if the goal is to “create diversity on the committee”.

Mark reiterated that Sarah Absher has expressed to him a desire to be involved in the community plan process.

Community Plan Survey Update

Randall Koch read a portion of the appended “Survey Review Committee report and comments” into the record.

Chris shared that he will be stepping aside from his involvement in the Community Plan due to personal reasons.

Hillary Gibson asked if the Community Plan Survey was prepared by a formally composed committee.

Randall Koch described the history of the work on the community plan, and that the group that conducted this work was “never a committee, it was an organizing group of officers, basically, with one consultant.”

Open Discussion of Future Agenda Items

Nancy Vandell suggested a Bylaws Committee Report as a standing agenda item.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Weitzel, Secretary

Appendix: “Survey Review Committee report and comments” submitted by Randall Koch

2019-2023 Abbreviated History of the Community Plan Update

2019 Call for Volunteers -The Chair (Randall) received responses from Chris Silkowski, Treasurer of the NCAC and Brenda Freshman, Professor California State Long Beach and Neskowin resident.

2019-2020 Started organizing how to do it: Educate, Survey, Hold Public Meetings

2020-2023 As officers, Chris and Randall became Co-Chairs of organizing the Community Plan. Brenda Freshman acted as a consultant and provided the first Zoom platform to hold General Meetings (Covid had prevented public meetings for 4 months) and present Informational Town Halls (ITH). Brenda also met with Chris and Randall weekly for most of 2020, 2021, 2022 and part of 2023 to develop the ITH and the Survey.

2022-23 When we had developed 72 questions to cover the State Planning Goals and safety in the community, the Survey was shared with 8-10 locals of whom 8 actively critiqued the work. Later in 2023 those 8 and additional reviewers went through the Survey again and provided additional critique and suggestions. Many of the reviewers had land use background including officers and two former chairs of the NCAC.

The Co-Chairs of the Community Plan for the last four years have organized for the community a series of Informational Town Halls over the last number of years that are now a part of the Community Plan Survey. Working together, the ITH's and the Survey ask questions as well as provide educational information about the specific ways the State Land Use Goals affect Neskowin.

The Community Plan Survey Review Committee was tasked with reviewing the current iteration of the survey and that was undertaken in the time between the 2023 April meeting and this Augusts' meeting. The reviews of the committee varied with multiple additions and suggestions, which resulted in numerous edits, with the overall conclusion being to go forward with the Survey as part of the overall process of revising the current Neskowin Community Plan.

To be clear, The Community Plan Survey is a basic tool to help understand the community and its understanding and perspective before meetings to work through each aspect of the current Community Plan, State Goal by State Goal. It is not a definitive document that leads to the revised Community Plan. It only serves to provide baseline information and to stimulate

discussion at the meetings to be held where decisions can be formulated from community members participation.

Below is a sampling of the comments on the survey.

COMMENTS

Bill Busch
former NCAC officer

“I also approve of the way that you have handled the explanation of the planning goals and the survey. In any sort of work product, professional or otherwise, it is routine to share it with people whose judgement you value before making it public. There is not a need to send the survey to a review committee before using it.”

“You and the others who worked on it obviously have put in a lot of time and thought into producing a comprehensive document.”

Charlie Ciecko, Former Director Metro Regional Parks and Green Spaces, Portland area

“I thought all the relevant topics were well covered and I believe that the results (once compiled) will provide valuable insights for the next steps of updating the Community Plan. I hope that the survey can go live ASAP as it is just one aspect of the much broader, and time consuming effort. I look forward to reviewing all of the survey results.”

Gary McClain,
Attorney, decades of mentoring to many local Neskowin residents and non-profits

“I was impressed by the amount of work that had gone into the preparation of the survey

I was of the opinion when I first read the proposed survey and by my review of it this morning that it was extensive and thorough and that it was objective; by that I mean questions were not being presented in such a way as to “direct” a desired outcome...”

“...as far as I am concerned the survey is “good to go”as it is...”

Tom Prohoditch, Neskowin resident

"I thought the survey was well done, generally covered the terrain, and was consistent with the many informational town hall meetings in the past regarding a new community plan as well as with the many discussions of the plan at past NCAC meetings."

"...the last check and balance on the adoption of any new community plan will be some type of vote on it by the NCAC membership when a draft of the plan is completed."

Alex Sifford, Co-Chair of the 1999-2001 existing Community Plan

"It looks fine, well done."

Laurie Kovack, Neskowin resident, attended many of the ITH and most General Meetings over the last four years

"Thanks for all the work the four of you have done over the last 3 years organizing and presenting information for the community to consider when participating in the upcoming review of the Neskowin community plan. "

"I completed the draft survey several weeks ago. I found it very straightforward, easy to understand and consistent with questions that arose in the informational zoom meetings."

"I question the need to slow down the process to establish a new committee to review the survey. The process has been very open to community participation. All the informational meetings were open to anyone willing to participate and are still available for review on the website. Planning for the review of the Neskowin Community Plan has been mentioned in every set of NCAC meeting minutes since February 2020. The process of putting together a survey has been mentioned in the NCAC meeting minutes since August 2020. "

In the August 22, 2020 meeting minutes it states:

"Community Plan update

Chris Silkowski, the chairman of the Community Plan Update Committee, reported that the community plan had been updated last in 1999 and that the current process to update the plan may be a 3 to 5 year effort. Chris, Ran and Brenda are the committee members and they have determined the next step is to create a survey of members of the community to determine the community members' values about future development. To help educate community members in responding to the survey they have scheduled a series of 10 monthly land use planning

webinars. The first is scheduled for 6 PM on September 22 which will be a live Townhall meeting, also available subsequently on YouTube, with a presentation by Sarah Absher (and a panel) regarding land-use planning purposes. The committee plans to cover the 19 State Land Use Goals over the 10 segment seminar series. The dates and times of the seminars will be posted in the Post Office along with email notices to all members. The first notice will be published by Friday, August 28.”

“The Community Plan has been mentioned in every NCAC meeting Since August 2020. A few examples follow.”

“In the June 8, 2019 meeting minutes it states:

The Neskowin community plan is up for review. The county will be looking for NCAC to work with the community and the county to move forward on this issue.”

“The October 12 2019 meeting minutes state:

Sarah Absher, Tillamook County Community Development Director, was unable to attend this meeting. She will help guide the process and provide support and direction for the Neskowin team.”

“In the October 8 2022 meeting minutes it states:

Community Plan Update

Chris reported that Community Plan Update Committee is continuing to develop and format a survey to be used for soliciting citizen input on any changes that should be made to Neskowin’s community plan in compliance with the State’s 19 land use goals.”

“In the December 10, 2022 meeting minutes it states:

On Community Plan Update

Chris reported that the Committee has completed a draft of its survey questions for the community plan, which are currently being reviewed by various subject matter experts. The next step will be developing and formatting the survey that will be used for soliciting citizen input on any changes that should be made to Neskowin’s community plan in compliance with the State’s 19 land use goals.”

“Sarah Absher, as a county representative, has attended many of the Neskowin Informational Zoom meetings and has provided guidance to the current committee for the last three years.”

“It is now April 2023, the committee recognized by the county, has been working in good faith on the community plan review process and survey issues since 2019. At the April 2023 NCAC community meeting it was suggested that the community plan survey was being rushed to publication. In my opinion the meeting minutes do not support that conclusion. It has been a slow, and thoughtful process.”

“If the discussion at the April 2023 NCAC meeting requires a review committee of three to five members to be officially voted on I nominate any of the more than a dozen community members that have already been asked to review the survey, with additional nominees at the NCAC officers’ discretion. Since the draft survey is currently available to this group I suggest they make any suggestions for revisions to the survey as soon as possible and once officially elected

the review committee be given one week after the election to submit any final suggestions for survey revision, with the revisions considered, and incorporated where appropriate by the original committee of Ran, Chris, and Brenda with input from the county.”