

Mary's River Estates Property Owners Association

Annual Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2010

Attendees: Jessica Neebe (President), Craig Williams (Secretary), Laurie Kunert (Treasurer), David Harry (Board Member), Mark Svendsen (Board Member) Bernie Williams, John F. Borowski, Jonathan Jensen, Angela Purviance, Robin Lillehei (Road District Commissioner), Yvette Spitz, Justina Kelliher, Laura Berman, Rich Kaestner, Gary Rook, Paul Ortman, Lee Kitzman

Agenda Items and Discussion:

1. Guest Speaker: Donna Schmitz, Resource Conservationist, Benton Soil and Water Conservation District. Email: dschmitz@bentonswcd.org. The website is located at: www.bentonswcd.org

Donna reviewed the function of the Soil and Water Conservation District. This group was formed in the 1940s-1950s. District boundaries are usually defined by county lines. Approximately \$0.05 out of every \$1000.00 of appraised value is collected and goes toward funding the programs. Their mission is to conserve resources and protect them. Community outreach and education are also provided to county residents. An annual tree and shrub sale is held to promote native species. Check out the website for more information, brochures, links, newsletters, etc.

Donna reviewed weed management and focused on many types of invasive weeds in Mary's River Estates such as: Himalaya blackberry, English ivy, Japanese knotweed, Yellow flag iris, butterfly bush, reed Canary grass, Scotch broom, and false brome. Invasive plants are usually non-native, fast growing (fast dispersal of seed), long-lived, and exhibit few habitat restrictions. They usually form single species stands and alter the natural succession leading to decreased biodiversity and reduction in the food supply and habitat for animals.

Weed management was reviewed:

- Mechanical- pulling, mowing, burning, solarizing
- Cultural- shading, site prep, and planting of competitive vegetation
- Chemical- spray, wipe, paint, inject
- Biological - these are managed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture (parasites, pathogens, grazer)

Long-term control can be achieved with multiple methods followed by active restoration with native plants. Here are some tips for weed control:

- Riparian areas- do not dispose of weeds in the water- seeds can travel downstream
 - Only use chemicals that are approved for use near water such as garlan 3A (avoid triclopyr)
- Blackberry control: cut back in winter, spray in fall, mow/spot treat sprouts about 5x/year
- English Ivy: remove vines from trees 1-2 x/year. Remove a 6 ft tall section from base of tree
- Knotweed: cut 2 x /month April through August

Visit the soil and water conservation district's website or contact Donna for more information.

2. Approval of January 20, 2009 annual meeting minutes: The minutes were approved.

3. Treasurer's Report: Laurie provided the report- see attachment

The group discussed the annual renewal fee for the association- need to look into filing the renewal with the \$50.00 fee. Form 501c.

2010 dues collected to date: \$ 90.00

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4. Road District Update: Road District meetings are held monthly (1st Thursday of the month). Usually these are held at Mike Miller's home at 7:30 pm. John Borowski has been appointed as a new commissioner and will serve a 3 year term. Robyn and Mike are the other 2 commissioners.

The road district encourages input from residents and will be working on developing criteria for making decisions. They will be reviewing the Queen Anne paving issue (8 residents in favor, 4 opposed so far) at future meetings.

5. MRPOA Board Positions: There are currently 5 board members. Each member serves a 3 year term.

Current members and term expirations: Jessica Neebe (President- term expires 2011) Mark Svendsen (term expires 2011), Craig Williams (Secretary- term expires 2010), Laurie Kunert (Treasurer- term expires 2010), David Harry (term expires 2011)

Current board positions up for election this year are Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary prepares minutes, mailings, supports board communications, and maintains email list (see below for news regarding communication). The Treasurer receives and deposits dues, pays invoices (very few), provides bank reports to the board, reconciles bank statements.

We need your help in filling these positions! We welcome your participation. Please contact Jessica or any Board member for more information.

6. Website: A big "Thank you" to Rich Kaestner for providing webmaster services!

Rich provided an overview of the revised MREPOA website (www.marysriver.philomath.or.us)

The website was revised to separate the Road District and Property Owners association information; maintain consistency in layout and navigation; incorporate local news, links and photos; and provide a link for communication (Google Groups).

Here are the highlights:

- Home page: local organizations link was added to the navigation bar. Photos posted for sharing.
- Separate areas for Road District (red) and Homeowners Association (green) with group specific navigation bars. This really streamlines navigation.

- Google Groups: A link is provided to join Google Groups. Residents can subscribe to receive emails from the Board as well as residents. This will eventually replace our email list. The Board encourages residents who want to be included in an email list, to sign up for Google Groups. An email will be sent to participating residents to introduce Google Groups to them. Click on the communications link on the home page to find out more.

Send Rich (click on the link "let us know") if you have suggestions or comments.

Next MREPOA Board meeting: April 22, 2010

Next Annual meeting: January 18, 2011

Respectfully submitted by:

Craig Williams

Attachments (1) follow.