Marys Peak Group of the Sierra Club
Minutes
Wednesday, January 16, 2019    7:00 pm

**ExCom Present:** Julie Arrington (Chair), Mike Neeley-Brown (Vice-Chair), Robert White (Treasurer), Karl McCreary, Dave Eckert (Program Chair), Susan Kropp (Membership)
**Present:** Leslie Hogan (Secretary), Jules Moritz
**Absent:** Robert Verhoogen (Outing Co-Chair), Barry Wulff (Conservation Chair)

**Call to Order – 7:00 pm:** Julie Arrington called the meeting to order.

I. Welcome and announcements
This will be the last meeting of the 2018 ExCom. We will wrap up old business and then adjourn. After adjourning, the newly elected board will be installed and present its first 2019 agenda.

II. Secretary's Report/Minutes (Leslie)
Robert White moved and Dave Eckert made the second to accept the minutes from the September 25th Executive Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously on 10/8/18.

III. Treasurer's Report  (Robert W)
Robert gave a recap of MPG’s 2018 financial year. Dave made the motion to accept the report, Mike made the second, and the motion carried.

IV. Chapter ExCom report (Julie)
Julie thanked all who came to the December Chapter meeting and for their comments and your support. She noted that Chapter was very impressed with all that MPG has done.
She noted that Trevor wants to join MPG this spring to hike or plant shrubs and that MPG should be sure to include him. He hasn't gone to Marys Peak, so . . .
The new CORE database from National should have a method to let MPG do the elections from it. We would not need to use Balloteer.
Chapter has a newly-formed Conservation Committee which is the Chapter's policy-setting group. Our conservation chair might want to get in on their calls.
The next Chapter meeting is January 26th in Portland.

V. Standing Committee/Team Reports
A. Outings (Robert V.)

Robert send this report to the committee via email:
Per Jane Luther’s 2018 year-end report:

- 12 active leaders led 71 hikes, totaling 387 miles and 57,947 ft. of elevation gain
- all active leaders are OLT 101 and First Aid-certified
- there has been no activity pertaining to wilderness first aid

Only one new prospective leader will be meeting with Ken Fitschen and the two Roberts Monday morning, Jan. 21st, for an OLT 101 certification session. In an ongoing effort to find new prospective leaders, a brief announcement to that effect will be made at the Winter Solstice Potluck.

Per FRAC (Forest Recreation Advisory Council) meeting December 3, 2018, reported out by Ken December 6th:

“The biggest news is that OSU Forestry will have to increase harvesting for the next 2 years—that will make 3 years including this one. The reason is the increased costs for the new forestry building on the OSU campus. In March, we’ll learn where all the harvesting will occur, but it will have a big impact on the McDonald… It would be interesting to know what percentage of the costs is covered by timber sales. I’m not sure, but definitely it will be a $1 million/year for 3 years. Perhaps some of the $1 million/year designated for the Forestry department could be re-allocated to the building, but Ryan Brown didn’t say that.

The council didn’t provide any details about where, what type, or how many cuts would be in the McD. Ryan did note that the McD likes a variety of types of cuts but those alternatives don’t generate much revenue. So it was clear that it will be hit hard and will probably reduce the ability to make harvesting sustainable in this forest—a huge change. This will be clarified in March. Not sure about the impact on the other small forests that OSU owns.

It will likely impact what Ryan Brown and Matt McPharlin are able to do regarding improving the trails because funds for those types of projects will be very tight. Ryan’s trying to decide if she can use some of the foundation funds in the Forest Connection budget to continue some trail-related projects.

OSU is adding another component to the FRAC members’ duties: the ability to respond to questions/issues raised by our representative faction, hikers in my case. It’s going to test out an e-mail system that doesn’t use our individual email addresses. As explained to us on Monday, it will be clumsy in that we’ll all have the same OSU
address so we’ll get every posted email from users. Then it will be up to us to identify if the issue relates to our user group and respond. OSU techs couldn’t find an easier system that protects our individual emails so we’ll see how this goes. Having a system for users to contact the FRAC is potentially useful if it’s not overwhelming.”

Respectively submitted January 16, 2019
Robert Verhoogen

B.  Membership (Susan)
Susan sent out 36 letters of welcome in August, 10 in September, 55 in October, and 18 in November.

VI. Old business
A. Election committee (Mike)
Julie gave thanks to Jane Luther, Barry and Mike for their work on the elections committee.
Mike reported the final results of the 2019 executive committee election:
- Electronic votes - 36
- Mail-in votes - 46

82 Total

The four positions were filled as follows:
Julie Arrington
Robert White
Jules Moritz
Karl McCreary

B. Corvallis Climate Action Advisory Board (CAAB) update (Dave)
The committee continues to meet with all their sub-committees and have submitted recommendations to the City of Corvallis for inclusion into its Strategic Operational Plan Review. The recommendations include hiring a full time climate action person to help accelerate the implementation of the Community sections of the climate action plan; integrating climate action into all city plans and reporting to the council on the progress of this step; revising two existing strategic operating plan measures so that the municipal and community greenhouse gas inventory is updated every two years; integrating the climate action goals into the Regional Economic Development Plan.

C. Bags4Beans fundraiser (Julie)
MPG didn't get chosen for the co-op's fundraiser. Julie will ask Donna T. for advice on how to do better.
D. January party (Julie)

47 people have signed up to attend the Jan. 19 winter membership party. Hilary will work as greeter, Leslie will plan an ice-breaker, Julie will provide the welcome and the program and all ExCom will come to the Chintimini Center wearing MPG T-shirts at 5:00 to help set up.

Each year a volunteer of the year award is given at this winter party. Julie asked to honor Barry Wulff for his long and dedicated service to MPG, and to his reviving and vitalizing the moribund organization over twenty years ago, by naming this award "The Barry Wulff Volunteer of the Year Award." Barry will also be the first recipient of this newly named award.

E. Interpretive signs on Marys Peak to honor Bob Frenkel (Dave)

The Forest Service has indicated it will soon put this project on the fast track. Marys Peak is being showcased as part of the new designation of Hwy. 34 to the coast as a Scenic Byway. The timing makes Dave optimistic about the prospects for this signage project.

F. Julie talked to Pat Malone at a meeting before the election. She sent congratulations to new Benton County Commissioner Malone, State Rep.Dan Rayfield and State Sen.Sara Gelser on their elections/re-elections. Pat and Sara responded.

VII. Next Meeting  (This is the final meeting of the 2018 ExCom! Thank you.)

VIII. Adjourned 8:08 p.m.

2019 Marys Peak Group of the Sierra Club
Minutes for the first meeting of the 2019 Executive Committee
Wednesday, January 16, 2019           8:14 pm

ExCom Present: Julie Arrington (Chair), Mike Neeley-Brown (Vice-Chair), Robert White (Treasurer), Karl McCreary, Dave Eckert (Program Chair), Barry Wulff (Conservation Chair), Susan Kropp (Membership), Jules Moritz
Present: Leslie Hogan (Secretary)
Absent: Robert Verhoogen (Outing Co-Chair)

I. Election of Chair for 2019 ExCom

Robert moved that Julie be elected for a second term as ExCom chair. Dave gave the second and the vote was enthusiastically unanimous. All present thanked Julie for
continuing her much appreciated work and for her unstinting use of her time and skills.

II. Election of Required Positions
   A. Vice-Chair: Mike Neeley-Brown
      Dave made the motion, Robert the second, and the motion carried.
   B. Group Representative to Chapter: Karl McCreary and Julie Arrington as co-reps
      Dave made the motion, Susan the second, and the motion carried.

III. Appointment of Positions
   • Secretary: Leslie Hogan
   • Treasurer: Robert White
   • Programs: David Eckert
   • Outings: Robert Verhoogen and Ken Fitschen
   • Membership: Susan Kropp
      Dave made the motion to accept the roster, Robert the second, and the motion carried.

IV. Treasurer’s Report (Robert)
   Robert noted that he has just started the 2019 numbers and will work up the budget.

V. Standing Committees
   A. Conservation (Dave)
      1. Outdoor Planting Projects
         i. Dunawi Creek
            Background: Dunawi Creek flows from Bald Hill to the Marys River in two separate branches with a confluence between Starker Arts Park and 35th Street. The MPG started working on Dunawi Creek with the City of Corvallis Parks and Recreation Department and the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition Water Action Team in 2015 with the first work party in Fall, 2016. The site for our project is on the east side of Bald Hill on a City-owned Natural Area protected riparian zone and wetland previously leased to a farmer to produce commercial ryegrass. The work involves discovering and disabling the 90+ year-old agricultural tiles that drain the natural creek headwaters through underground pipes. These pipes disrupt the natural creek hydrology and ecosystem benefits and deliver polluted water downstream. In addition, thousands of native shrubs and grasses have been planted in a 4.5 acre riparian zone to date. The shrubs will provide structure to protect the soil from erosion, restore hydrological and ecological functionality to this natural area and help to prevent the growth of invasive plant species.
            2019 Project: The MPG will work with collaborative partners in the Fall to plant another 1,500 native shrubs and also to disable additional underground agricultural tile pipes on this 4.5 acre site. Multiple work parties will occur between mid-January through the
summer months to mulch and clear weeds. In the summer, volunteers will drive a City water truck regularly to the site to water the plants. Separately, a constructed wetland is being planned for Starker Arts Park with planting expected in the Fall of 2019.

**Motion – MPG allocate $300 to purchase native plants for the Dunawi Creek Regeneration Site.**

Dave made the motion, Mike the second, and the motion carried.

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### ii. Lamprey Creek

**Background** – In 2014, the MPG collaborated with many local organization to get a 3-mile unnamed urban creek that flows from Dimple Hill to Oak Creek officially named by the U.S.G.S. as Lamprey Creek. Following is a link to a local article, that unfortunately left out the MPG as a collaborator, but provides an otherwise good summary.


Following is a link to an article that describes the blessing of Lamprey Creek by the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde.


Following the naming, the MPG and other organizational collaborators began regenerating native plant life along the Lamprey Creek riparian zone in Dr. MLK, Jr. Park. Since 2015, four major planting parties each Fall have resulted in the planting of hundreds of trees and shrubs, many by local students. The benefits of the vegetative buffer in the Riparian Zone are that it inhibits the hundreds of dogs that have been disrupting the stream bed (think juvenile lamprey and Pacific Giant Salamanders that live there), it shades the creek that with solar exposure was reaching 80 degrees in the summer (killing most native aquatic species) and it provides habitat and food for the entire web of life that supports a healthy creek.

**2019 Project: 5th Annual Lamprey Creek Native Planting.** The MPG will collaborate with the Corvallis Waldorf School, City of Corvallis Parks and Recreation and the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition Water Action Team to regenerate a 5th creekside riparian area along Lamprey Creek in Dr. MLK, Jr. Park. By doing this work, the collaborating organizations have strengthened the advocacy for protecting and enhancing Lamprey Creek in the City’s Master Plan process for Dr. MLK, Jr. Park that is nearing completion.

**Motion – MPG allocate $100 to purchase native plants for the 2019 Lamprey Creek Project.** Dave made the motion, Susan the second, and the motion carried.

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### iii. Crescent Valley Native Arboretum

**Background:** In 2010, the MPG planned and planted its first schoolyard native
The MPG ultimately planted 6 schoolyard arboretums with students, parents and teachers. The arboretum consists of locally native trees, shrubs and forbs, with an extensive path system with interpretive displays describing the plants and the functions of an arboretum. In addition, small labels on posts provides the botanical and common name of selected plants and a qr code that leads the user to a website describing the respective plant. Now that this arboretum is reaching an adolescent level of maturation, the site is in need of upgrading to stabilize the arboretum as a destination place for students, student/class projects and the public.

**2019 Projects:** The MPG will work with students to improve the path system with wood chips donated by local arboreal companies. Additional donations by arboreal companies and individuals will be thick tree trunks and branches to line the paths, providing a woodland park feeling. In addition, two CV students are interning to assist in labeling the paths with Kalapuya names that have been approved by the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Cultural Resources Department. Each path name reflects a native plant species found along that path. The plan is to have one 3’X 4’ interpretive display on a post that shows all of the path names with an aerial map and a description of each plant, then each path will have a small labelled sign with the Kalapuya and English path name. The Kalapuya name and its English common name for the respective plant species are these:

- Ahsney (Coyote) for the Coyote Bushes along the path.
- Amituwi (Salal)
- Anklakwa (Ocean Spray)
- Ampup (Alder)
- Anschmit (Maple)
- Anafu (elderberry)

(Please see map toward bottom of the minutes.)

**Motion – MPG allocate $100 to partially fund an interpretive display of the Kalapuya Trail names for the Crescent Valley Native Arboretum.**

Dave made the motion, Mike the second, and the motion carried.

iv. **Millrace**

**Background:** The 2015 Creek Tour of the Mill Race in South Corvallis spurred great interest in this polluted, flood-prone man-made ditch that generally followed a natural drainage area for the Marys River floodway and a former wetland between the Marys River and the Willamette River. Today, the watershed is highly developed with a major state highway splitting it in two. It is also the most flood-prone area of the City of Corvallis. The MPG has collaborated with other organizations in historical research and current hydrological and land use research. Invasive plants and litter have been removed from the stream banks and native trees have been planted. Investigations have been made to acquire more land for the riparian zone and a municipal/public
committee has been meeting to discuss and help resolve the many problems of the Mill Race.

**2019 Projects** – Invasive plant removal parties will occur in the spring and additional native tree planting will occur in the Fall. Additional efforts will be made to procure additional riparian land to be owned by the City to protect the man-made creek.

**Motion – MPG allocate $100 to partially fund an interpretive display for the Mill Race.** Dave made the motion, Julie the second, and the motion carried.

**v. Dixon Creek**

**Background:** The MPG began its first collaboration with the City on Dixon Creek with invasive plant removals and native plantings, as well as the Dixon Creek tours. Interpretive displays have been produced and installed along the creek.

**2019 Projects** – An additional 3 interpretive displays are planned to be installed along Dixon Creek by public trails on land owned either by the School District or by City Public Works.

**Motion – MPG allocate $100 to partially fund an interpretive display for Dixon Creek.** Dave made the motion, Robert the second, and the motion carried.

(Please see map toward bottom of the minutes.)

**2. H & V Atmospheric, Surface Water & Groundwater Pollution plus Mill Race creek channel daylighting**

**Background:** For many decades, H & V and its predecessors have polluted the air, soils and water around South Corvallis to the detriment of residents and the general environment. Recently, as a result of intense public outcry and resulting government crackdowns, H & V has begun to respond with mitigation. Local citizens, energized by their success, have asked for additional oversight and mitigation. MPG has been asked to sign on to petitions and demand that H & V provide additional mitigation efforts. In addition, the predecessor to H & V had illegally diverted the final stretch of the Mill Race from draining directly into the Willamette River to draining directly into the Marys River and culverted the creek into an underground pipe as it passed through its land. This allowed more buildable space and easier transport in and through the industrial property. The land is mostly in a protected River Greenway zone, but has been grandfathered. There is question whether the grandfathering is legal.

**Recommendation:** Dave recommends that the MPG not sign any petition nor take an aggressive position with demands against H & V. He recommends that the MPG agree to study the issues of pollution and creek degradation and craft productive measures and to confer with H & V directly to express our interests and our assistance in developing mitigation techniques. He stated that he believes that during the tense adversarial climate, the MPG can play a more productive role by collaborating with H & V to find mutually advantageous solutions.
Motion: MPG ExCom appoint Dave Eckert and MPG members Julie Arrington, Mike Neeley-Brown and Jules Moritz to study the pollution and creek degradation issues surrounding the H & V industrial park in South Corvallis and propose active collaborative solutions with H & V. Dave made the motion, Robert the second, and the motion carried.

B. PROGRAMS

1. **16th Annual Spring Lectures Series 2019:**

**Background:** The MPG has been the sponsor of the Spring Lecture Series at the Library since 2004. Marcia Shapiro initiated and administered the Spring Lecture series from 2004-2017.

All programs are from **6:30 – 8:00 pm** in the Corvallis Library Meeting Room. The Library has requested we start the programs prior to 7:00 pm. We need volunteer greeters & ushers and, in one case, book sellers.

**Thursday, March 14 – Bill Sullivan**

**“New Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades”**

Renown Oregon Hiking author and lecturer, Bill Sullivan is back to present his latest book with incredible new hikes within a one-day drive of Corvallis in the spectacular Cascades. Get there early to get a copy and find a good seat. Corvallians hang off the rafters to hear Bill present when he comes to town. Bill always bring copies of all of his books for sale. (This presentation was rescheduled from its original date of Feb. 7 due to a scheduled week-long closure of the library for remodeling.)

**Tuesday, April 30 – Dominique Bachelet**

**“Local Fire Eco-Dynamics”**

Is fire normal, predictable, inevitable in the Willamette Valley in the past, present and future? OSU Associate Professor Dominique Bachelet specializes in Dynamic Fire Modeling, Climate Change Impacts Modeling and Ecosystems Ecology and has presented this program at a major national conference, but not here in Corvallis. This is a critically important issue for every resident of Corvallis.

**Thursday, May 9 – Barry Wulff**

**“Paradise near Corvallis - A Lifetime of Favorite Hikes”**

Lifelong hiker and longtime past chair of the Marys Peak Group of the Sierra Club, Barry Wulff, presents his 10 favorite places to hike from the Coast to the Cascades near Corvallis. Condensed from many decades of hiking these special places, Barry will show wonders that even his closest hiking partners may not have explored.

**Discussion:** The second lecture rental is free as Bill is selling a book, and the Library will therefore co-sponsor the Event. The first and third lectures will cost us $75 each.

**MOTION:** MPG allocate $150 for the rental of the Library community room for the Spring Lecture Series. Dave made the motion, Robert the second, and the motion carried.
2. 3rd Annual Champinefu Fall Lecture Series – 2019

**Background:** The MPG initiated and has administered the Champinefu Lecture Series since 2017 and has been solely responsible for raising the funds. Our largest funder has been the Spring Creek Project, assisted by about 10 individual funders. All presenters are selected by the Cultural Resources Departments of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde or the Siletz Indians. Of the 6 lectures held, we have averaged well over 300 audience member per presentation. The programs are free, open-to-the-public and fully accessible. The Majestic Theater is owned by the City of Corvallis and complies with all safety regulations.

The past programs have been:

“The Kalapuya Then and Now” by David Harrelson
“Kalapuya Archaeology: Cultural Record of the Willamette Valley before 1850” by Dr. Thomas Connolly
“Native Space” by Dr. Natchee Barnd
“Stories and songs of the Kalapuya” by Shannin Stutzman
“Kalapuya Language” by Henry Zenk
“Ethnobotany of the Kalapuya” by Doug Deur and David Harrelson

All programs are on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Majestic Theater. Doors open at 6:00 pm.

We have the dates reserved at the Majestic and the speakers determined, but we haven’t matched the dates with the speakers.

**Dates:** October 9, November 6, December 11.

**2019 Working Titles/Speakers** (not in final sequence):

- **The Kalapuya Mounds** – recent discoveries by Tia Cody and members of the Grand Ronde
- **Artwork of the Kalapuya** – past and present by the artist who was selected to produce an art piece for the new OSU Forestry Building.
- **The Kalapuya Texts II** – release of a new edition by Jedd Schrock

**Funding:** We need to raise about $3,000 again to fund the Majestic rental, tech support, honorariums and promotional costs. This may require special line items added into the budget.

3. 12th Annual Corvallis Creek Tours

**Background:** Every year since 2008, the MPG has managed, in collaboration with other (varying) organizations, an annual urban creek tour. The collaborating organizations and agencies over the years (varying with each year) have included:
The creeks toured have included:
2008 – Dixon
2009 – Oak
2010 – Dunawi
2011 – Newton
2012 – Jackson
2013 – Dixon
2014 – Oak
2015 – Mill Race
2016 – Dunawi
2017 – Sequoia
2018 – Lamprey

We may have one, two or three tours in each spring, each providing a different perspective and depending upon the creek. Transportation has been by bike, City van or trolley and car pool. The program is free and open to the public. Funding depends on whether we produce brochures or T-shirts and the interest expressed by our organizational partners.

2019 – The Mill Race {May – date TBD}
While we provided a Mill Race tour as recently as 2015, many relevant issues have evolved since then. There are opportunities to add to the protected riparian zone. There have been recent maintenance and plantings in the riparian zone. There is a new City staff/community resident ad hoc committee working to revive the Mill Race. The upcoming City initiative election to fund a Special Tax Zone for South Corvallis includes significant funding to upgrade the Mill Race. Much more interest has developed to look at the flooding issues surrounding the Mill Race. There is such a new interest in the Mill Race that the timing for this tour is appropriate. The City of Corvallis Public Works and the Marys River Watershed Council have agreed to co-sponsor the tour with us. Tour participants will meet at Avery Park.

Motion – MPG allocate $200 for general expenses to manage the annual Corvallis Creek tour in 2019 on the Mill Race. Dave made the motion, Robert the second, and the motion carried.

4. 12th Annual Earth Day Tour (April 22nd) Community-Scale Solar Tour
**Background:** Every year since 2008, the MPG has managed an Earth Day Tour of Corvallis on the true Earth Day, April 22\textsuperscript{nd}, regardless of the day of the week for any given year. Each year we have a different theme. Following are the themes from past years:

- 2008 - *Reviving Earth Tour*
- 2009 - *Recession Gardens of Corvallis*
- 2010 - *Naturalizing a Yard*
- 2011 – *Trees of OSU Campus*
- 2012 – *OSU Celebrity Tour*
- 2013 - *Three Native Arboretums*
- 2014 – *Large Scale Residential Rainwater Systems*
- 2015 – *Far-Out Buildings*
- 2016 – *Home Energy Tour*
- 2017 – *Champinefu Tour*
- 2018 – *Corvallis Fault Tour*
- 2019 – *Community Solar Systems*

**The Outing Leaders for the Tours have been:**
2008-2014 – *Jane Luther*
2015 – *Barbara Loeb*
2016- present – *Mike Neeley-Brown, plus Julie Arrington, Doris deLespinasse*

Transportation has been by bike and car pool. The tour is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required.

As an up-date, Dave reported that he has gotten approval from OSU and the City and is awaiting approval of the school district.

**2019 Community-Scale Solar Tour** - The changing State/Federal regulations/incentives, the rapidly-increasing need for large-scale energy source change and the increasing need for community-based energy back-up systems necessitate our need to change our energy focus from single home-based solar to community solar systems that provide renewable and sustainable energy systems for the whole region and provide functionality in specific critical infrastructures during natural or human-made emergencies. This tour will show three examples of where this energy trend has begun in Corvallis.

**Location** (order not yet established):
1. OSU Ag fields
2. CHS Community Emergency Power
3. City Wastewater Treatment Plant
It is expected that the City of Corvallis, OSU and the 509J School District will co-sponsor the tour with the MPG as the administrator. 

**Motion – MPG allocate $100 for general expenses to manage the annual Earth Day tour.** Dave made the motion, Robert the second, and the motion carried.

V. New business

A. **Corvallis Sustainability Fair and Town Hall March 7 (Julie)**

The Fair takes place **Thursday, March 7. The Sustainability Fair runs from 5:00 – 7:00 pm and the Town Hall is from 7:00 – 9:00 pm** at the CH2M Hill Alumni Center on the OSU campus. A highlight of the program will be the keynote presentation by **Mary Christina Wood**, the University of Oregon law professor and author who is best known for her writings advocating for the use of the **Public Trust Doctrine** to force government action on climate change.

**Motion – MPG allocate $75 from membership funds to cover the cost of tabling at the fair and $150 from public education funds to sign on as a sponsor.** Robert made the motion, Susan the second, and the motion carried.

B. **Susan has signed up for a table for MPG at the Peavy Arboretum “Get Outdoors Day” event on June 8 from 10-3. There is no cost involved for tabling.**

C. **Corvallis Climate Action Advisory Board (Dave)**

**Motion: The chair write a letter to the city council in support of the three recommendations made by the CAAB as discussed in the final meeting of the 2018 ExCom.** Robert made the motion, Mike the second, and the motion carried.

D. **Lobby Day (Julie)**

After a discussion of Lobby Day, held this year on Wed., Feb. 6 in Salem, several members decided to carpool up to Salem to find out more about the OR Clean Energy Jobs Bill.

**Motion: Dave will set up an appointment with our area legislators on a fact-finding mission to learn about the OR Clean Energy Jobs Bill.** Robert made the motion, Susan the second, and the motion carried.

E. **Revising the bylaws (Mike)**

Mike noted that MPG’s bylaws are gradually being outmoded and need to be brought into sync with modern policy decisions. Dave suggested Mike and Robert work with Barry as a subcommittee to decide how best to address issues of our by-laws by providing an accessible platform for MPG’s policies.
VI. Next meeting: April, date TBD

V. Adjourn: 9:15 p.m.
Letters exchanged as part of an ExCom email discussion Nov. 13-Dec. 12, 2018:
Integrated Invasive Plant Management for the Northwest Oregon District
DOI-BLM-ORWA-N000-2018-0002-H:A

Dear Public Land User:

The Northwest Oregon District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) (DOI-BLM-ORWA-N000-2018-0002-EA) of its proposal to expand and update its existing District-wide integrated noxious weed management program. The purpose of this letter is to notify you of an opportunity to review and comment on the analysis of the effects of that proposal.

The Environmental Assessment and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for this proposal are available on the BLM’s ePlanning website: https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplplanning/ncpa/ncpa_register.do (use text or map search) or you may request a printed copy using the contact information provided in this letter.

Until 2016, the BLM managed the Northwest Oregon District as two districts: the Salem District, which included the Tillamook, Marys Peak, and Cascades Field Offices; and the Eugene District, which included the Siuslaw and Upper Willamette Field Offices, as well as the West Eugene Wetlands. Available invasive plant treatment methods have varied by field office, and include manual (e.g., hand-pulling, digging, grubbing, solarization), mechanical (e.g., mowing, tilling or disking, string trimmers, propane torch), seeding and planting, prescribed fire, biological control agents (generally insects), targeted grazing, and herbicides (primarily glyphosate).

After reviewing the analysis contained in the EA and FONSI, I have identified Alternative 3 as my preferred alternative because it would:
- Broaden the scope of the program to provide for management of non-native invasive plants in addition to the noxious weeds currently managed on the District;
- Increase the herbicide active ingredients available for use to more effectively manage invasive plants across the District;
- Provide for additional non-herbicide control methods, including weed barrier mats and propane torch spot treatments, to be used when effective or practicable; and,
- Allow management of aquatic invasive plants.

Your comments on the proposed expansion and update to our invasive plant management program are an important part of the decision-making process. To assist in timely consideration
of comments, please provide comments by December 13, 2018, using one of the methods identified below. To be most helpful, please make any comments on the EA and FONSI as specific as possible. My interdisciplinary team will review all of your comments and will respond to the substantive comments received.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Ways to Submit Comments or Request a Copy of the Document:

- **ePlanning:** [https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do](https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do) (use text or mapsearch)
- **Email:** blm_or_invasive_plant_ea_comments@blm.gov. Subject: Northwest Oregon Invasive Plant Management EA (OR 932)
- **FAX:** (503) 375-5622 Attn: Northwest Oregon Invasive Plant Management EA
- **Mail:** Northwest Oregon District BLM, Attn: Northwest Oregon Invasive Plant Management EA. 1717 Fabry Road St., Salem, OR 97306

Questions about the project may be directed to Claire Hibler, Project Lead, (503) 375-5677, Paschita Paulette, District Environmental Planner, (541) 683-6976, or may be sent to blm_or_invasive_plant_ea_comments@blm.gov.

Sincerely,

Jose Linares
District Manager, Northwest Oregon
December 12, 2018

Jose Linares  
District Manager, Northwest Oregon  
Bureau of Land Management  
1717 Fabry Road SE  
Salem, OR 97306

Dear Mr. Linares:

The Marys Peak Group of the Sierra Club thanks the Bureau of Land Management for forwarding to us the administrative decision for invasive plant removal on Marys Peak. During the recommended implementation of that decision, we ask that the BLM staff and contractors remain fully aware and respectful of the Federally-designated Scenic-Botanical Special Interest Area (SBSIA) that extends above the 3,000 foot elevation of Marys Peak. Application of Round-up and other herbicides, as well as biological controls, can have both known and unknown impacts upon the native plants, lichens, fungi, insects, and soil microorganisms. Additionally, there are potential impacts upon the humans applying the mitigation technique and the general public who visit these sites. We encourage the BLM to do no further harm to the already heavily-impacted public lands and to provide further attention throughout the entire implementation process to the current and future health and environmental integrity of the Marys Peak SBSIA.

Sincerely,

Julie Arrington  
Chair, Marys Peak Group Executive Committee  
Sierra Club
Marys Peak Group, Sierra Club  
P.O. Box 863  
Corvallis, OR  97339  
January 22, 2019

The Honorable Mayor Traber  
Councilor Napak  
Councilor Maughan  
Councilor Lytle  
Councilor Bull  
Councilor Ellis  
Councilor Wyse  
Councilor Glassmire  
Councilor Junkins  
Councilor Struthers

Dear Mayor Traber and members of the Corvallis City Council:

The Executive Committee of Marys Peak Group, Sierra Club, was disappointed to learn that the Climate Action Plan (CAP) is not mentioned in the Corvallis Strategic Operational Plan (SOP) that will be discussed at the January 24th Council meeting. None of the recommendations that the Climate Action Advisory Board (CAAB) made on November 30, 2018, are included in the SOP.

We believe that we must act now to reduce the impact of climate change and do all that we can to make a difference. We, therefore, urge you to adopt the recommendations of the Corvallis Climate Action Advisory Board and include them in the City’s Strategic Operational Plan. These include hiring a full time climate action person to help accelerate the implementation of the Community sections of the CAP. The CAAB also urges the Council to integrate climate action into all city plans and to report to the council on the progress of this step. The final recommendations are to revise two existing SOP measures so that the municipal and community greenhouse gas inventory is updated every two years and to integrate the climate action goals into the Regional Economic Development Plan.

Sincerely,  
Julie Arrington, Chair
Marys Peak Group Executive Committee
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