

Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative
Steering Committee – Meeting Minutes 6/12/19

Structure of the ODRC steering committee

- Should the Siuslaw National Forest be a part of the steering committee, a formal liaison, or other arrangement?
 - SNF should be involved in the committee but as a non-voting member
 - They will have internal meetings to determine who will hold that role
- CPRCD will also help move the group forward but will not be voting or making decisions on behalf of ODRC
- What should the structure be, or who should be on the steering committee?
 - Members that are involved in the work, more than just attending quarterly meetings
 - Note – consider other locations for future meetings that can accommodate video conferencing or other options to broaden participations
- Keep it small so that items can be reviewed quickly and decisions made
- In future, consider adding local government reps and Confederated Tribes rep
 - And when we expand, make sure those reps are engaged in the work beyond quarterly meetings
- If there are issues the steering committee cannot decide on, then those issues go to the full ODRC

Scope/purpose of the steering committee

- Handle business items (non-significant issues) that require a quick turn-around
- Set big-picture strategic policy and make recommendations to full ODRC
- Set agendas for quarterly ODRC meetings
- Monitor budget, financial procedures & reimbursements
- Discuss grant applications & other fundraising ideas
- Make personnel decisions (2nd year RARE, eventually staff positions)

Meeting schedule for steering committee

- Quarterly + ad hoc meetings as needed
- Manage the transition of current leadership to steering committee
- Previous leadership (USFS + RARE + CPRCD) met 1 or 2 times between ODRC meetings, roughly 1 month prior to set agenda
- Schedule next steering committee meeting for early September, to plan for Oct. 18 ODRC meeting
- Jeff M planning “transition” meeting in July to teach key volunteers about Google drive, website & Facebook, e-newsletter, and other tasks
 - Need to assign roles for those tasks

Raising funds for 2nd year RARE

- Per conversations w/ RARE staff, ODRC is basically approved for an intern as long as we obtain the funds
- We can conduct interviews in mid-July; if funding not secured, our choice of intern may end up elsewhere
- Ford Family Foundation 10K grant seems like a strong lead – they generally fund projects that RARE wants to support

- ODRC will need to raise the remaining 13.5K (if Collins Foundation grant does not get approved)
- Potential sources to ask:
 - Lane County Economic Development
 - State Regional Solutions group
 - Chambers of commerce (and could they ask their members for smaller contributions?)
 - Local governments (both county and city)
 - Local businesses – especially OHV rentals and sales
 - When distributing new batch of brochures, start having fundraising conversations with owners
 - Individuals – check list of who expressed interest in donating (via the website)
 - Banks – Siuslaw Bank, Banner Bank, others?
- Could the Forest Service contribute any remainder if we do not reach 13.5K?
 - Probably not – due to changes at USDA level
 - Single-site intern placements now must be approved at agency level, expect for certain programs
 - We cannot call the RARE intern one of these types just to get it approved

3-5 Year Strategic Action Plan

- When should the process begin?
- Should we begin the planning process soon, so that it is ready to go when the EA is finished?
- Could a rough draft be created prior to the October ODRC meeting?
- Have other collaborations (involved with CPRCD or elsewhere) gone through a similar planning process?
 - Kirk can ask South Willamette Forest Collaborative if they'd be willing to share their plan
- Jeff M will write a technical assistance grant to Ford Family Foundation prior to his current year of RARE finishing)
- Soon we will need to prioritize which large-scale restoration projects we will look for funding for

Summer / Fall field trip

- Key target audience should still be elected officials
- Getting them to see the problem and buy in to our strategy will be key
- Day Use Area is best location to show open sand, changing habitat, foredune, marten habitat, etc... all in one place
 - Jeff M will circle back to elected officials to begin planning before his term ends
- ODRC steering committee + USFS line officers attending from our end
- Is there also a need for a public meeting / open house regarding the NEPA process?
 - Yes, but needs to be timed properly
 - Draft decision could be released in late July; meeting could be held after that to explain the decisions made
 - ODRC can co-host / help promote

Childs-Whitney Trust donation

- Do we need to spend the donation by a certain time?
- It was earmarked for tools and education by the donor
- \$2,123.07 left after purchasing tools and brochures
- Priority will be to spend the rest on the video (which can then be used as a tool for future fundraising)

Volunteer Appreciation Event

- Tentatively planning some sort of cookout or event after a work party
- Last year, Armand and Bill provided brats + drinks and everyone else brought sides
- Could spend some ODRC funds to provide the basics
- Bill will discuss potential dates with volunteers at his next work parties
 - Power of Florence (July 20) has a high turnout, but volunteers will be dispersed
 - After Labor Day may be best option

Engaging more with Confederated Tribes

- Jeff M will reach out to contacts on email list and see if Tribes willing to have a one on one meeting this summer
- Lisa can provide more background to them if they want more information on the history of ODRC

Next steering committee meeting

- Early September – please fill out Doodle poll with availability