



78th Street Heritage Farm Advisory Team Meeting Minutes



Thursday, May 18, 2023, 4:00pm to 5:30 PM
Clark County Public Works in Conference room B-1
4700 NE 78th Street, Vancouver, WA. 98665, and
Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Advisory Team: Bill Zimmerman*, Gary Garth*, Kathleen Perillo*, Kirk & Peggy Gresham, Robert Freed*, Sandy Brown

Clark County: Matthew Baum*, Rocky Houston, Amy Arnold, Zane Karver, David Stipe, Erik Harrison, Bart Catching, Lynde Wallick*

Farm Programs, Neighbors, Public Members: Emily Straw, Kristine Perry

* Not Present

4:01 PM Called to Order

Rocky called the meeting to order on behalf of Matthew Baum.

4:01 PM Introductions – Roll Call

Everyone in-person and online attending via Microsoft Teams introduced themselves.

4:03 PM Approval of Minutes

Minutes Adoption:

Time	Action Item
4:03 PM	MOTION BY: Rocky Houston SECOND BY:
	MOTION: Motion to adopt March 16, 2023 Minutes, as submitted
	DISCUSSION: Discussed Robert’s Rules regarding quorum. The Minutes were not adopted due to a lack of quorum.
	IN FAVOR: OPPOSED: ABSTAINED:

4:04 PM Sustainability Plan Update – Rob Freed and/or Lynde Wallick

Rocky indicated that Lynde is absent but will attend the next meeting to provide more information regarding this. Rocky said that Lynde is continuing to write the draft plan and will prepare it for the next Steering Committee meeting. He also said the County made a presentation to the Preservation Commission to discuss the wetland project at Heritage Farm and the updates regarding Hazel Dell Community Park, but also regarding updates to the sustainability plan.

Sandy and Rocky briefly discussed the previous work session that occurred regarding some of the Farm’s options.

David indicated that Lynde followed up with LULAC and completed the workshop exercise with its members. Sandy, Rocky and David discussed whether a new member from LULAC has been appointed to be on the Steering Committee.

4:10 PM Farm Advisory Committee Report – Sandy Brown

Sandy reviewed the event requests for Heritage Farm – on May 20, 2023 the WSU Master Gardeners are doing a hands-on training on how to get started in gardening; on August 22, 2023 the WSU Master Gardeners are also doing star night event to look at the night creatures behaviors; and on May 26, 2023 the Clark County Food Bank will bring middle school children from Gaiser Middle School to do a tour and educational learning regarding gardening, where your food comes from, and composting. Sandy also indicated that the Chrysanthemum Group submitted an event request to hold their Spring sale on June 17, 2023.

Sandy said she is still working on the Summary report and hopes to finish that in the next couple of weeks.

Kristine asked Sandy for confirmation of another event that plans to occur at the farm on May 20, 2023 – the SNAP-Ed program at the WSU Extension is having its Afghan women refugees come to tour the farm and learn about its resources. Sandy and Kirk discussed that the event request sent via email may have been missed by Sandy due to her being on vacation.

Sandy also indicated that she is trying to update the farm’s calendar with the Clark County Food Bank’s regular event days and days that its volunteers would be in attendance. Emily gave a brief overview of their schedule and listed some tentative days and times. She also indicated that their schedule is dependent on the season and the number of people that arrive. She noted that when it’s time to harvest their carrots, that is usually a larger event that Blair assists with, and that she would notify Sandy when it would occur.

Kristine asked whether there is a calendar for the Farm’s events that could be accessed via internal and/or external parties. Sandy and Rocky discussed this and Rocky indicated he will work with Matthew and the Communications team to verify there is a calendar and that it’s current. Kristine added that an interactive calendar would be a great additive to help increase the community’s access to the farm.

4:24 PM Friends of the Farm Foundation Report – Kirk Gresham

Kirk said they participated in the Home and Garden Fair at the Clark County Event Center on April 29, 2023 and April 30, 2023 and noted they had good interactions with the public and were pleased to have been invited.

Kirk also indicated that the farm is having some difficult maintenance challenges with some of its older equipment due to the lack of ongoing maintenance and the number of different people operating the devices. He said this is affecting everyone on the farm since they all use them. He said they plan to meet with Kristine to draft an approach or program to solve this issue. Kirk also discussed the repairs and issues regarding the John Deere piece of equipment too.

4:27 PM Farm Operations Report – Rocky Houston/Zane Karver

Rocky listed some updates – that LULAC is not moving forward with an application for the greenhouse so the County is processing a removal plan for that; that the County has several leases for partners on site that are currently being reviewed by legal – that once those have been

approved the County will move forward with presenting them to Council; that the County received documentation from the Master Gardeners Foundation regarding the repairs to greenhouse number seven and that Facilities is reviewing this for confirmation; and that he and Kristine did a tour of the WSU Administration building and the farm with the new Public Works Director, Ken Lader, and the Deputy County Engineer, Jeremy Provenzola.

Sandy and Rocky discussed the greenhouse that LULAC does not want (greenhouse number seven) and whether the Master Gardeners could reuse or repurpose it. Rocky indicated he will follow-up with LULAC and if they are open to the idea, he will double-check with the County's Planning department to ensure that the building still conforms with the exception that they provided for that greenhouse.

Zane listed his updates – that he has started mowing on the farm; that the water is on, the pump is good, and he hasn't experienced any issues; that the Clark County Food Bank has started the disking, bedding, and renovations process and will be planting in the next month or so; that WSU is continuing their mushroom research; that the oil and hydraulic fluids have been changed on all of the tractors, but that the John Deere tractor is still not working; that the Mother's Day sale went well; and that the Food Bank got the rest of their land extended so now they have the full ten acres.

4:34 PM Public Comments

Rocky, Erik and Zane indicated they have received no public comments.

4:34 PM Open Forum – Hazel Dell Master Plan update

Rocky summarized the Hazel Dell Master plan update on behalf of Lynde indicating the County is replacing the roofs on a couple of its shelters, plans to improve its parking lot, and is doing a master plan update. David further explained when the first public meeting should occur, in August 2023; that the County is planning on improvements to the parking lot and its ADA accessibility; that the master plan will take one year to complete; and that the County is working with PBS Engineering and Environmental on the project.

4:36 PM Open Forum – Questions and Answers

David discussed the updates for the Clean Water department's wetland project at Heritage Farm noting that the County is reviewing plans and specifications and is planning to submit permit requests towards the end of the year. David also discussed the mitigation and planting plans for the project indicating that he will compile the drawings into a PDF and once the editing is finished, will share that with the Advisory Team for review.

4:40 PM Close Out Remarks – Rocky Houston

Rocky discussed the hot weather noting to stay hydrated and cool, that the County is going through a growing season, and that Public Works will be performing a lot of work around the County and to be careful of the construction zones.

4:41p PM Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by Amy Arnold, Secretary

All meetings are scheduled from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM