2016

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Officers

President: George Milne 1864 SE Anspach St. Oak Grove, OR 97267-2619 503-572-8512 milnemasonry@frontier.com

Vice President: Jan Walker PO Box 129 Selma, OR 97538 541-597-2410 spooky7@frontier.com

Secretary: John Rettig 1632 NW Aspen Avenue Portland OR 97210 johnbrettig@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Sylvia Milne 1864 SE Anspach St. Oak Grove, OR 97267-2619 503-572-8512 sylviamilne@msn.com

Past-President: Joan Zuber 44731 South Elk Prairie Road Molalla, Oregon 97038 503-829 8709 zuberi@iuno.com

Washington, D.C. Representative: Brock Evans 5449 33rd Street Northwest Washington, D.C. 20015 202-425-1517 bevans_esc2004@yahoo.com

Conservation Policy Advisor: J. Michael McCloskey 2829 SW Sunset Boulevard Portland, Oregon 97239 503-892.2664 jmmccloskey@aol.com

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California: Joe Fontaine, Ann Meneguzzi, Beryl
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Outdoors West – send submissions to: Raelene Gold 4028 Northeast 196th Street Lake Forest Park, Washington 98155 206-363-4107 raelene@seanet.com

www.federationofwesternoutdoorclubs.org



FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS

Established in 1932 for Mutual Service and for the Promotion of the Proper Use, Enjoyment and Protection of America's Scenic Wilderness and Outdoor Recreation Resources.

Resolution #6: August, 2013 Oppose Single Track Bicycling and Shared Trails in Portland's Forest Park

Background: Portland's Forest Park, over 5,000 acres, is the largest forested municipal park in the nation. Mature, second growth mixed coniferous and deciduous forest with numerous streams and an old growth area provide hiking, jogging, nature study and bicycling recreation for more than 1 million people annually. There are more than 30 miles of bicycle paths already in the Park. Many paths are designated for hikers only, but bicycles intrude and threaten the safety of hikers and the integrity of the ecosystem.

Why would the Federation concern itself with a city park? This is a wilderness park, a true hiking experience. Many more people than residents of Portland use it. It provides a connecting corridor to the Coast Range for wildlife. It provides a laboratory used by many schools and colleges for their students and the research of their professors. The Park was promoted and founded by the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, Trails Club of Oregon and Mazama members. The Trails Club leads hikes twice a week in the Park which is open to all and has for many years.

The press for single track bicycling is only one variety of "extreme sports" which substitute physical thrills and speed for the passive uses detailed in the management plan. The management plan was adopted in 1998, and, by ordinance, has the force of law. The plan was prepared in fulfillment of a requirement of the Land Use Law of 1973.

An organized, vocal and persistent group of cyclists is lobbying, successfully for sharing trails with hikers and building their preferred "single track" trails less than 3 ft. wide. The plan requires 8 ft. trails for bikes. The bikers are trying to get the Parks Dept. to rule that a 3 ft. trail is not a non-conforming use and will not require an amendment to the plan and thus, no public process.

Resolution: The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs opposes trail-sharing and single track bicycle paths in Portland's Urban Wilderness Forest Park.

Parsons, Susan

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From:

i»; George Milne <milnemasonry@frontier.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, October 18, 2016 5:25 PM

To:

Parsons, Susan

Subject:

Forest Park Discussion on November 16th

Dear Ms. Parsons,

I would appreciate the opportunity to speak at the November 16th Counsel meeting regarding Forest Park.

I am President of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs (FWOC), an organization deeply involved in formation of the park under the leadership of then President Ding Cannon.

I am also Past President of the Trails Club of Oregon that has lead weekly Wednesday hikes in the park for many years.

My concern is the liability of interfacing hikers and bicycles on the trails. A lot of thought went into the philosophy of passive activity in the Management Plan as well as the ecological sensitivity within the park boundary.

Sincerely,

George Milne
President
Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs
milnemasonry@frontier.com

Request of George Milne to address Council regarding the liability of interfacing hikers and bicycles on the trails in Forest Park (Communication)

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PLACED ON FILE

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Ву	ev		Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:				
	YEAS	NAYS		
1. Fritz				
2. Fish				
3. Saltzman				
4. Novick				
Hales				