



Sand Dune Vegetation Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Gearhart City Hall    April 24, 2017    5:00-6:15PM

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Next Meeting: Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup> 10:00-11:30AM. Location: Gearhart City Hall.

At this meeting the

In Attendance: Jim Furnish, Reita Fackerell, Sharon Kleopfer, Mike Brackenbrough, Kerry Smith, Jan Lund, Bill Corti, Janet Ottem, and Margaret Marino

Committee meetings are open to the public.

- I.        Introductions
  - a.    Committee members and audience members introduced themselves.
- II.       Purpose of the Committee
  - a.    The purpose of the committee is to help the City identify a strategy to manage the vegetation on the dunes throughout Gearhart. This could include an update to City ordinance; specifically the Beach and Dune Overlay Zone.
- III.      Review of Technical Information
  - a.    Sayce and Schultz provided ecological reports regarding the natural history and current conditions of the dunes. With these reports, there is some conflicting information. Some of this could be because of semantics. The committee discussed the flammability of Scotch Broom and how it is unlikely that native vegetation, besides trees, would out-compete noxious weeds such as Scotch Broom. There was discussion about how fire was used to manage the landscape in the past.
    - i.    Hannah will work on finding a method for a peer review of the reports and will report back at the next meeting.
  - b.    The Woody Vegetation Matrix found in Sayce's report will likely be used in the future to align priorities with management strategies.
  - c.    Other information presented at the January 2017 meeting was reviewed, including maps that were created by Clatsop SWCD.
- IV.      Management Priorities
  - a.    Committee members and audience members listed their priorities for managing the dune vegetation. Answers included:

Promote public safety	Represent all stakeholders	Manage vegetation growth and remove noxious weeds
No fire road (or any road)/ minimize fire road	Preserve life for animals	Limited grooming to maintain ocean views
Trim dead or dry vegetation	Maintain as much forest as possible, move fire road to preserve new forest	Eliminate Knot Weed and Scotch Broom
Minimum management of the dunes	No heavy equipment in the dunes	