Minutes Cascade Volcanoes Broadband 3/15/22

About two dozen Broads welcomed Michele Pinkham, Community Engagement and Development Manager for NARA NW, Inc. (Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest), who gave two related presentations.

The first covered NARA’s foundation in 1970 to provide culturally competent healing processes for both native and non-native populations. The current staff of about 400 people serve 11 sites in our area, including mental, dental and physical health facilities as well as youth programs and engages with the community through walks, powwows and a green team working to follow practices healing to Mother Earth.

In the second, “A siimées’ (two-spirit) perspective,” Michele spoke of the Nez Perce tradition that provides background for the connection between salmon and humans. When the Creator gave humans a voice, they were charged to speak for the animals, from whom voice was taken away. The Creator asked which animals would support people, and salmon was first to step up. Now traditional fishing sites offer very few salmon; the Nez Perce have begun introducing spring chinook in places they once thrived, with the hope that the young will return in two years to complete their cycle. The tribes are also working hard for the removal of the lower Snake River dams. They see some shift in opinion among the Army Corps of Engineers which they hope will lead to breaching before it is too late.

Broads thanked Michele for her warmth and generosity in sharing her knowledge and perspective (and her patience with computer glitches) and turned to the meeting agenda.

ADVOCACY

Micky gave details about **Source to Sea** events connected with the project by three river guides to complete the journey down the Snake from source to sea. They will be in Hood River 7/4 and Astoria 7/11. There will be a supporting flotilla in Portland 7/10 and Broads plan to assist in feeding them. **Contact Micky to help with this endeavor.**

Joanna added that the Grannies have been active in support, with banners and light projections. **They need a 12’ raft for the flotilla event; if you have access to one, contact Joanna.** Merkley and Wyden have not signed on for dam removal. The Grannies have posters and postcards for use at farmers’ markets and Columbia Riverkeeper has billboards. Micky noted an opportunity to speak at **Merkley’s Multnomah County online meeting 3/20 at 12:30** and a chance to get more info on a **Riverkeeper’s Advocates Zoom Call 3/30 at 5 p.m.**

Laurie noted several events that will take place throughout **Earth Day at Vancouver Waterfront** including dedication of the improved land bridge. Broads may be able to table. She also spoke about **Green River Mine**, which has been stopped, but we hope for a complete ban on mineral withdrawal. **Pumice Plain** appeal brief is due 3/30; the USFS will not pursue road work this season.

Felice presented info about two Oregon forest issues. **Elliot State Forest** has been placed in public ownership in partnership with tribes, and 90% is protected from logging. We will need to monitor how OSU manages its research portion. **Logging practices on private lands** have been improved but Oregon is still behind other states. **NOAA’s Habitat Conservation Plan** for western forests has been released. A **Broads Comment Workshop will be scheduled.**

STEWARDSHIP

Barb reminded us about the **Lower Columbia River Estuary Planting 3/21** on the Sandy River Delta.

person

Laurie presented info about monitoring for **Invasive Species Council of Washington.** **Contact her if interested**. She also reminded people about signing up to volunteer for **Cascade Forest Conservancy** and hopes to schedule a Broads event with them. Meanwhile, people interested in hiking in the Mt. St. Helens area can sign up for the 9/24 event.

Kathleen provided info about the **Trail Ambassadors Program with TKO.** Several Broads attended an online info session and will proceed with online training for Trailhead Ambassadors (stationed at trailheads) and Wilderness Ambassadors (hiking wilderness trails). **Information is on TKO website (trailkeepersoforegon.org).**  More volunteers are desired, so please get on the TKO website and take the online training in order to be ready for the inperson training (TBD)

EDUCATION

Barb reminded us of the second showing of “Warrior Women,” which generated much discussion after its first showing. This event is full but there may be similar events in the future.

FUN

Micky announced the dates and site for the **Campout.** It will be **August 11-13 at Morehead Park**, a county park on the Long Beach Peninsula. **Planning committee consists of Micky, Ellen, Lorena, Laurie and Nancy. Contact Micky if you’d like to join.**

Barb noted weather problems related to **Hikes/Snowshoes** but noted a successful snowshoe to June Lake 3/7 and hopes for another to Twin Lakes, likely on short notice related to weather.

Laurie told us of two local fundraising activities with Oregon Bike: **Portland Century 6/19 Troutdale; Harvest Century Forest Grove 9/25.** Broads will get $25 for each 3-hr shift. Shifts are full but **contact Laurie to be on wait list.**

Micky reminded us of **Broads Online Auction 4/18-27.** Broads can still donate items and can register to bid. This is a major national fundraising activity.

The meeting ended with carrot cake and a rousing chorus of “Happy Birthday” for Linda B, Micky, Anne and Kathleen, your faithful scribe.