

HMSC Safety Committee
December 2, 2008
Minutes

Attending: Randy Walker, Rick Brown, Devin Brakob, Dave Johnson, Carol Cole, Dawn Grafe, Faith Cole, Steve Kupillas

Randy called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Schedule: due to multiple conflicts, the first Tuesday of each month is not working out for the Safety Committee. After brief discussion, it was determined that future meetings would be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, starting in January 2008. Meeting time and location remain the same: 9:00 a.m., upper lobby of the Barry Fisher Building.

Trailer Handling: Faith Cole provided a copy of the PowerPoint that demos safe handling of trailers. Randy Walker has the copy, available for sharing.

First-aid kits: Facilities is currently placing first-aid kits in housing.

Safety Committee Membership: Randy will send a memo to Roy Lowe, asking for US Fish & Wildlife representation on this committee.

Dogs on the Estuary Trail: Visitors are continuing to violate the “no dogs” policy on the trail. The discussion touched on Oregon laws for dogs, authority to cite violators, fines for unleashed or out-of-control animals and for chasing of shorebird flocks, especially during migration. It was decided that we need much better signage, and Dawn Grafe agreed to work with Randy Walker on the wording and design. (Suggestions included mandatory “no dog” images, possible ORS violation/penalties, nesting species, protected shorebird area, “rules” for estuary trail walkers. It was also suggested that this idea might be presented at the Sustainability Committee meeting.)

Randy will present the idea to HMSC management, for the new signs which will be placed at each entry point to the nature trail, including the Visitor Parking lot entrance, the side road entrance closest to the OCA, the path adjacent the US Fish and Wildlife building, and the open area behind the EPA building. In addition, an “Official Parking Only” sign might be placed at the EPA lot.

Shellfish Regulations: Suggestion was made that ODF&W might choose to put signs citing shellfish harvest or licensing rules, or “closed” season signs out in appropriate locations.

Winter Plans: It was noted that HMSC has an “inclement weather” policy on the website, which lists radio stations that would broadcast HMSC information.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.