

**Open Space Acquisition Advisory Committee
General Meeting
May 14, 2008
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA**

MINUTES OF THE **General Meeting** OF THE **Open Space Acquisition Advisory Committee** held on **May 14, 2008** in the **City Hall, Lower- Level Conference Room** located at **201 S. Cortez St**, Prescott, Arizona.

1. Roll Call & Approval of Minutes from 4/09/08 Meeting –

Members Present: Michael Byrd, Jeff Low, Walt Anderson, Brad Bergamini, Jeri Smith-Fonara, Valarie Isley, John Lorant, Bruce McKeeman, Ron Smith. **Members**

Not Present: Dan Campbell, Jim Lawrence, Ed Lutz, and Steve Walker.

Others Present: Councilwoman Lopas, Fletcher Clark, Rich Lewis, Judy Greenburg, Jim Boyd, Michelle Stacy

Michael suggested that the following typographical errors be fixed before approval of minutes:

- Item 2 last sentence: change committees to committee's.
- Item 3 property Monitoring Review: Remove Brad from first sentence. He was not present at the meeting.

Bruce made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Walt seconded the motion. Motion approved.

2. Introduction of New Member(s) & Guests

New committee members, Valarie Isley and Jeri Smith-Fonara were introduced to the committee members present.

Rich Lewis, who resides next door to the Hazelwood property, was introduced as a guest. Rich is interested in being a possible ranger for the property and would like more information regarding the protocol for open space and how to handle potentially hazardous situations on the property. Lora has talked with the City Attorney and the Interim- Parks and Recreation Director about the possibility of having a volunteer position made for this purpose. No decision has been made at this time.

Also present as a guest was Judy Greenberg, of the Open Space Alliance. She is concerned with the Pronghorn herd and what the plan is for its preservation in regards to the property that was headed to Planning and Zoning a few weeks ago. Michael said that Tom Petit, President of the Open Space Alliance is looking to fill a position on the 20/50 Visioning Committee with a representative from the Open Space Advisory Committee. Jeri said that she would gladly fill the position.

3. Fletcher Clark Earth Day Summary and Recognition

The committee presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Fletcher Clark for his hard work and diligence while working with the Open Space Advisory Committee. He was recognized for the in-depth project he completed as part of his studies at Prescott College.

According to Fletcher, Earth Day was a success. Some of the concerns raised were:

- Where and how to donate money to the OSAAC?
- Who to contact in regards to stewardship of open space?
- People want to help, but what can they do?

The open space survey has been taken off the City website due to cost, however Jeri has stated that if possible she would pay for it to run for a year. The committee is looking into ways to possibly collect monies for open space via a trust fund or a non-profit organization.

4. Open Meeting Law Considerations

Effective immediately, the Open Space Advisory is subject to Open Meeting laws. Michael explained to the committee that it would no longer be possible to work in subcommittees. There will be working groups that will concentrate on certain areas such as: community outreach, property monitoring, development review, special projects and real estate acquisition. It was also explained that any quorum of committee members would fall under open meeting law and would need to have an agenda and or minutes for the quorum. It is encouraged to keep discussion of issues to a minimum in email correspondence.

5. Working Group Updates

Community Outreach: Walt stated that the outline of the purpose of the group needs to be changed. Eric Smith has information to get out to the public.

Development Review: Jeff showed a map pertaining to the Granite Dells Estate. It shows that the parkway will run through the existing open space area. The posted speed limit will be 45 MPH, which will affect the hillside cut. Would it be beneficial to write a letter to the City opposing such a high speed? Lora stated that the development agreement has already been done, and not sure of what else can be done.

Judy Greenberg stated that Council is looking into a Habitat Conservation Plan in regards to fish and wildlife. The issue has been brought up through citizen's concerns.

6. Open Space Master Plan Discussion/Council Update

Jeff showed an Open Space Master Plan slide show. A concern was raised by Council about having a specific header for the Granite Dells area. Council feels that a description of the Dells and the properties that are within the corridor is

needed. Lora recommended putting a header paragraph at the beginning of the section listing all the properties and then further elaborating on each property in its own paragraph. It was stated that Councilman Lamerson would like to have maintenance plan added to the document Ron stated that he, along with Walt, would be able to do the editing.

Walt suggested that the committee change its name to the Open Space Advisory Council. It will be shelved until the next meeting for further discussion.

Lora brought to discussion the TPL/ Nature Conservancy. According to Walt, Dan Campbell has the information and Michael suggested that it needs to go to Council. Jeff will get a presentation together and go through the City Manager's office to get it on the agenda.

7. Executive Session

A. Discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(7).

i. Properties in the Granite Dells area

Green Appraisal: Lora stated that the appraisal is over a year old with the price being \$100,000 per acre. The entrance is at the Granite Gate Resort and is 6 acres. The committee discussed the property and through a motion by Jeri and a second by Brad, the committee is not interested at this time, but Lora will write a letter to let Capri know to keep the committee in mind for later consideration.

Granite Gardens/ Hazelwood Property: Brad went into detail about the escrow account. Michael informed the committee that the seller is not in good standing with the Corps of Engineers, and Bruce is concerned with legality issues and the best way to protect the city.

Would it be beneficial to arrange a field trip for all committee members to see the Phase I of the project and review the conditions of the contract? Jeri talked about maybe going for 2 acre parcels and Bruce recommended that the committee urge the city to head that way.

Bruce presented a map of existing and possible properties that the committee is interested in. The properties were color coded to represent existing properties in green and proposed properties in

orange. It was recommended to add the greenways and trail to the map and parcel numbers as well.

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm.

9. Next Scheduled Meeting: 5/14/08

Jeffrey Low

NAME OF CHAIRMAN, Chairman

Michelle Stacy

NAME OF MINUTE PREPARER