



Minutes

City of Flagstaff

Open Spaces Commission

Wednesday, February 27, 2014
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

City Hall, Council Conference Room
211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona

A quorum of the Flagstaff City Council may be in attendance of the Open Spaces Commission meeting.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact 928-779-7660 (774-5281 TDD). Notification at least 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.

CALL TO ORDER

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Rick Miller, Chair
Bryan Burton
Carrie Eberly
Bruce Fox
Jessica Gist
Christopher Ives
Paul Moore

CITY STAFF:

Rebecca Sayers
McKenzie Jones
Nicole Woodman
Nicole Denering
Martin Ince
David McIntire

COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

Ellen Tibbetts
Collis Lovely
John Grahame
Matt Pengelly
Suzanne Motsinger
Dirk Pratley

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm.

2. Public Participation

At this time, any member of the public may address the Commission on any subject that is not scheduled before the Commission on that day. The Arizona Open Meeting Law prohibits the Commission from discussing or taking action on an item which is not listed on the prepared agenda. Commission members may, however, respond to criticism made by those addressing the Commission, ask staff to review a matter, or ask that a matter be placed on a future agenda. To address the Commission on an item that is on the agenda, please wait for the Chair to call for Public Comment at the time the item is heard.

3. Approval of Minutes

Commission member Gist moved to approve the January 23, 2013 meeting minutes. Commission member Moore seconded the motion.

4. Discussion Items

A. Review of City-owned Parcels for Open Space Retention – Existing and Future Efforts

David McIntire provided an update of the 17 City-owned parcels Council reviewed. The two most commented-on parcels are the North San Francisco parcel and the Schultz parcel. According to Mr. McIntire, City staff recommended integrating the North San Francisco parcel as part of Buffalo Park as a passive park.

Staff recommended that the Schultz parcel be rezoned by the County as open space and be managed by the Sustainability Program. City staff will work with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to potentially construct a trailhead. Martin Ince, Multi-modal Planner, explained that the City submitted this recommendation to the USFS as part of the Mount Elden Dry Lake Hills discussion.

The City is attempting to sell Koch Fields off Silver Saddle Drive. The sale will only occur if the offer will repay the trust, otherwise the sale will be revisited at a later time. Three bidders are interested in purchasing the property. The Finance Director and Council will make the final decision on proposed bids and can reject all bids.

David McIntire explained that the 17 parcels discussed by Council do not include parcels under 1 acre and those with long-term restrictions. These parameters have been filtered by GIS.

B. Friends of the Rio Presentation on City-owned Parcels for Open Space Retention

Collis Lovely presented on all of the City parcels affected by the Rio. See attached presentation.

C. Open Space Master Plan Strategy and Vision

McKenzie Jones asked the Commissioners to read the Open Spaces Management Plan previously developed by City staff in 2008 in order to determine what updates can be made to the existing plan. Next steps will be discussed at the next meeting.

D. Update on Picture Canyon Management Plan

McKenzie Jones told the Commission she is working on the plan, which requires extensive revisions. As a result, there is nothing to send to the Commission for review yet.

E. Update on Observatory Mesa Stakeholders Group Meeting

The City will be hosting an open house instead of a stakeholders meeting on Thursday, April 3 from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm at the Main Library in the Community Room. Tables will be set up with relevant topics in an attempt to answer any questions from the public. The first official stakeholders group meeting will be held in late-May

5. Information Items To and From Commissioners and Staff

A. Chair Miller shared the Director of the Museum of Northern Arizona is interested in preserving the piece of the Rio that runs through the museum property as open space. Chair Miller will talk to the Director about the Rio parcels.

6. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

A. How to Preserve Open Space – Pros and Cons of Different Strategies

B. Updating the Open Space Master Plan

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.