



# MINUTES

## City of Flagstaff Open Spaces Commission

Thursday, April 24, 2014  
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

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City Hall, Staff 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 928-213-2175 (774-5281 TDD). Notification at least 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

#### COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Denise Burley  
Rick Miller  
Bryan Burton  
Carrie Eberly  
Bruce Fox  
Jessica Gist  
Chris Ives  
Paul Moore

#### CITY STAFF:

McKenzie Jones  
Marty Jacobson  
David McIntire  
Jennifer Mikelson  
Sterling Solomon

#### COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

John Grahame

### **I. GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **1. Call to Order**

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 4:05 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.

John Grahame notified the Commission that there would be a presentation on 4FRI and the Future of Our Forests at the Museum of Northern Arizona on April 30, 2014.

#### **3. Approval of Minutes**

McKenzie Jones, Open Spaces Staff Liaison, will add John Grahame to the public attendance list from the March Opens Spaces Commission meeting. Commission member Fox moved to approve the March 27, 2014 minutes following revision. Commission member Moore seconded the motion.

**4. Discussion Items**

**A. Update on Strategies for Preserving Open Space**

David McIntire, Real Estate Manager, and Sterling Solomon, Deputy City Attorney, answered Commission members' questions about open space preservation strategies. Chair Miller asked for more information about rezoning land as open space. Mr. McIntire and Mr. Solomon stated that rezoning is an additional layer of protection because it must go through Council and be approved by the public. Mr. McIntire provided the Commission members with a copy of the ordinance that created Buffalo Park. Chair Miller asked what strategy could be used to protect parcels along the Rio de Flag. Mr. McIntire answered that an ordinance is probably the easiest but not the most binding strategy. The Commission members explored other conservation strategies with Mr. McIntire and Mr. Solomon including the use of a straw man to create a deed restriction and the use of a bond election. Mr. McIntire and Mr. Solomon told the Commission they would research such questions and return with answers at a future Commission meeting.

**B. Regional Plan Election Update**

Jennifer Mikelson, City Planner, updated the Commission regarding the special election to adopt the Regional Plan and explained that mail-in ballots are due May 20<sup>th</sup>. If approved by voters, the new Plan will replace the old Plan. If the Plan is not approved by voters, then City staff will seek additional public input, amend the plan, and seek voter approval again. This process will continue until the public approves the Plan. Ms. Mikelson stated no negative comments were heard at the public information meeting.

**C. Open Space Master Plan**

Ms. Jones presented a draft Open Space Master Plan to the Commission and requested feedback. The Commission discussed the best way to state the purpose and vision of the Master Plan and referenced the Regional Plan for help with developing a purpose and vision statement. One addition to the document that the Commission members requested was the concept of connectivity. The Commission also wanted the document to more clearly define open space. Commission member Fox stated that the methods used to select parcels for open space consideration should be included and that urgency of parcel preservation should be included in the criteria or strategies section. Ms. Jones agreed to update the Master Plan with Commission edits and send it out for review prior to the next meeting.

**5. Information Items To and From Commissioners and Staff**

**A. Picture Canyon Trail Day – Saturday, June 14, 2014, 8 am – 1 pm**

Ms. Jones alerted the Commission of the Picture Canyon Trail Day on Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am.

**B. Observatory Mesa Stakeholder Meeting – Thursday, June 19, 2014, 5:30 pm**

Chair Miller reminded the Commission that June 7<sup>th</sup> is National Trails Day at Roger's Lake. Chair Miller also noted that Coconino County received \$30,000 for a bike park project at Ft. Tuthill County Park. Commission member Eberly informed the

Commission that Diablo Trust will be hosting artist workshops August 1-3, 2014 and October 10-12, 2014. Ms. Jones told the Commission that the Sustainability Program is waiting to hear from Council if it will receive one-time \$60,000 one-time open space maintenance funds and an additional \$12,000 for open space maintenance annually. Commission member Gist informed the Commission that the Protecting Our Rivers Workshop will be held on Saturday, May 17, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm at the Arizona Game & Fish Region 2 Office.

6. **Agenda Items for Next Meeting – May 22, 2014, 4 pm**
  - A. **Ordinance Memorializing Open Space Designation of North San Francisco Parcel and Schultz Parcel**
  - B. **Open Space Management Update**
  
7. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

**CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF NOTICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Flagstaff City Hall on\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. in accordance with the statement filed by the Disability Awareness  
Commission with the City Clerk.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Monteverde, Administrative Specialist