



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff Open Spaces Commission

Thursday, October 15, 2015
9:00 am – 11:00 am

Field Tour, met at Museum of Northern Arizona
3101 Fort Valley Road, Flagstaff, Arizona

A quorum of the Flagstaff City Council may be in attendance at 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:
Rick Miller, Chair
Carrie Eberly
Bryan Burton
Jim Burton

CITY STAFF:
Betsy Emery
McKenzie Jones

COMMUNITY MEMBERS:
Stephen Hirst

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

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. Commissions 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

Commissioner Eberly motioned to approve the September 24, 2015 meeting minutes. Commissioner Jim Burton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

4. **Discussion Items**

A. **Review of City-owned Parcels Along the Rio de Flag near Museum of Northern Arizona**

Parcel 111-01-001E: Commissioners expressed concern about whether there is an easement in place for the Flagstaff Urban Trail System (F.U.T.S.) through this parcel. Commissioners believed the parcel has value as open space because it provides a buffer for the Museum of Northern Arizona, a regional heritage site. Additionally, the parcel has recreational value because the F.U.T.S. is present. The parcel has scenic value because it provides a view of the San Francisco Peaks. The Rio de Flag adjacent to the parcel provides ecological value.

Parcel 111-02-006B: Commission discussed that the northwest side of the parcel could be used for residential development. Commission agreed that the east portion of this parcel has value as open space given that it shares values with parcel 111-01-001E. The parcel could be split to reflect these divided values.

Parcel 111-02-005: The western portion of this parcel is dedicated to Cheshire Park. The Commissioners believe the portion of the parcel east of the F.U.T.S. trail is valuable open space for the community because it serves as a buffer between the Museum of Northern Arizona and the nearby Cheshire community. Additionally, the parcel has recreational value with the F.U.T.S. trail present. The Rio de Flag travels through the parcel, providing valuable riparian habitat and placing ecological importance on the parcel.

Parcel 111-09-082: This parcel is dedicated for drainage. Commissioners believe the parcel has high open space value because it is a very scenic portion of the Rio de Flag, which provides many ecological functions including drainage and riparian habitat.

Parcel 111-09-084: This parcel is dedicated for drainage. Commissioners believe the parcel has high open space value because it is a very scenic portion of the Rio de Flag, which provides many ecological functions including drainage and riparian habitat.

Parcel 111-02-059: This parcel buffers the Museum of Northern Arizona nature preserve area and is very scenic, providing views of the San Francisco Peaks. The parcel has ecological value given that the forest has been treated and is very healthy. The F.U.T.S. trail provides recreational opportunity as well as connectivity for the Cheshire community. The Rio de Flag channel provides riparian wildlife habitat. The parcel has a steep drop-off on the eastern side that severely limits development potential.

Parcel 111-22-056: This parcel is very steep, which limits development potential. Additionally, this parcel is located directly along the Rio de Flag, which has ecological value as critical riparian habitat for the area.

Parcel 111-22-058: This parcel is dedicated for the F.U.T.S., providing recreational opportunity and connectivity for the Cheshire community.

5. Information Items To and From Commissioners and Staff

6. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – October 22, 2015

- A. Friends of the Rio Watershed Planning Effort
- B. Rezoning of Open Space Parcels (Public Hearing)
- C. Picture Canyon Interpretive Signs
- D. Review of City-Owned Parcels
- E. Open Space Management Update

7. Adjournment

Commissioner Eberly moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 am. Commissioner Bryan Burton seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all.

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 _____, 2015.

Chris Monteverde, Administrative Specialist