



AGENDA

City of Flagstaff Open Spaces Commission

Monday, March 27th, 2017
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Council Chambers, City Hall
211 W. Aspen Ave.
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

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:

Bryan Burton, Chair
Carrie Eberly, Vice-Chair (Absent)
Rick Miller
Jim Burton
Stephen Hirst
Libby Kalinowski
David Zimmerman, Planning and Zoning Commission

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Chair Burton called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

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.

Charles Hammersley, 219 South Dunnam Street, expressed his interest for a Flagstaff Open Space Parks and Recreation Tax Initiative. Mr. Hammersley gave a brief background of the Coconino Parks and Open Space Tax Initiative (CPOST). CPOST provided Coconino County with \$33 million dollars for Open Space and Parks and

Recreation before it expired in 2016. Mr. Hammersley stated that the Flagstaff Open Space Parks and Recreation Tax Initiative might be a tax of up to an eighth of a cent on the dollar. This tax would assist the City of Flagstaff in acquiring open space properties and developing a west side park for Parks and Recreation.

3. Approval of February 27th, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Hirst motioned to approve the February 27th, 2017 minutes. Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

4. Discussion Items

A. Flagstaff Urban Trails System (FUTS) Master Plan, Martin Ince

Martin Ince, Multi-Modal Planner, presented the FUTS Master Plan to the Commission. Mr. Ince showed visuals of the existing trails as well as the proposed trails. Mr. Ince stated how FUTS and Open Space are connected. Mr. Ince also showed the Commission where proposed trail hubs are located. The Commission stated that they want FUTS to also connect with other existing trail systems such as the Flagstaff Loop Trail, Arizona Trail, and National Forest trails.

B. Management Plan for Legally-Designated Open Space Properties, Betsy Emery
Betsy Emery, Open Space Specialist, presented the management plan for legally-designated open space properties to the Commission. Ms. Emery's presentation covered the background of the Open Space Program, goals, and policies. Ms. Emery stated that the Management Plan will be reviewed and updated on a five year basis. Ms. Emery also shared that the Management Plan covers both Picture Canyon Natural and Cultural Preserve and Observatory Mesa Natural Area, in addition to outlining overarching management policies for all properties managed by the Open Space Program, instead of having separate management plans for every parcel. Ms. Emery will present the Management Plan for Legally-Designated Open Space Properties to City Council on April 18th for consideration.

C. Matrix Remaining City-Owned Parcels, Betsy Emery

The Commission discussed how parcel **101-01-003F** provides ecological value, connectivity, and recreation opportunities. The Commission unanimously voted to approve parcel **101-01-003F** as open space value.

The Commission discussed how parcel **101-01-020B** provides connectivity and recreation opportunities. The Commission unanimously voted to approve parcel **101-01-020B** as open space value.

The Commission discussed how parcel **112-12-046B** provides ecological value, connectivity, and recreation opportunities. The Commission unanimously voted to approve parcel **112-12-046B** as open space value.

The Commission discussed how neighboring parcels **112-17-034B**, **112-19-011A**, **101-01-003F**, and **112-20-012B** provide connectivity and recreation opportunities. Commissioner Hirst stated the Arizona Mineral Belt Railway ran through parcel **112-20-012B**. The Commission unanimously voted to approve parcels **112-17-034B**, **112-19-011A**, **101-01-003F**, and **112-20-012B** as open space value.

The Commission discussed how neighboring parcels **112-51-220** and **112-51-219** provides connectivity with the existing FUTS. These parcels also provide ecological value due to the wash that runs through these parcels. The Commission unanimously voted to approve parcels **112-51-220** and **112-51-219** as open space value.

The Commission discussed how parcel **112-48-066** provides connectivity with the existing FUTS, may be used as a community garden, and contains a flood plain. The Commission unanimously voted to approve parcel **112-48-066** as open space value.

The Commission discussed how neighboring parcels **112-61-111** and **112-61-105** provides connectivity and recreation opportunities. In addition, these parcels contain the Ponderosa Wash. The Commission unanimously voted to approve parcels **112-61-111** and **112-61-105** as open space value.

The Commission discussed how parcel **105-06-105B** provides connectivity, ecological value due to the flood plain, and cultural importance. Commissioner Hirst mentioned that this parcel also contains evidence of the historic Arizona Mineral Belt Railway. The Commission unanimously voted to approve parcel **105-06-105B** as open space value.

The Commission discussed how parcel **116-61-006** neighbors FUTS, but does not provide connectivity itself. The Commission mentioned that the parcel could have an additional tree buffer so it could continue to be aesthetically pleasing from I-17. The Commission unanimously voted that parcel **116-61-006** does not provide open space value.

D. Open Space Management Update, Betsy Emery

Ms. Emery informed the Commission of a few new updates regarding the Open Space Program. The Open Space Program now has its own logo. In addition, trail guide brochures will be available onsite at Picture Canyon Natural and Cultural Preserve. Ms. Emery also shared the fiscal year 2018 budget status. The City Manager's recommended budget will go to City Council in April for review. Within the fiscal year 2018 budget, the Open Space Program was approved for a one time funding of \$2,000 for the Ingenious Youth Summer Academy, a one-time funding of \$23,000 to build a trail head with Mr. Ince for the new Schultz Open Space, and the Open Space Specialist position was approved for one more year.

5. Information Items To and From Commissioners and Staff

Chair Burton shared that details for the upcoming Open Space Symposium are still being discussed. Commissioner Miller said he went to the Coconino County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, where Mr. Hammersley also shared his interest for the Flagstaff Open Space Parks and Recreation Tax Initiative. Commissioner Miller stated that he would like to see the Flagstaff Open Space Parks and Recreation Tax Initiative on a future agenda.

6. Upcoming Agenda Items

- A.** Flagstaff Open Space Parks and Recreation Tax Initiative, Charles Hammersley
- B.** Continued Venus Parcel Discussion, Martin Ince
- C.** Acquisition Priorities for Open Space and FUTS, Betsy Emery/Martin Ince
- D.** Review of Vacant County-Owned Parcels within City Limits, Betsy Emery

E. McMillan Mesa Management, Steve Zimmerman

7. **Adjournment**

The Commission meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:00pm.

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 _____, 2017.

Elizabeth Emery, Open Space Specialist