



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff Open Spaces Commission

March 1st, 2018
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL
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 928-213-2154. Notification at least 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.

CALL TO ORDER

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Bryan Burton, Chair	Stephen Hirst
Libby Kalinowski, Vice-Chair	Jackie Thomas
Rick Miller	David Zimmerman
Jim Burton	

STAFF LIAISON:

Betsy Emery, Open Space Specialist

1. **Call to Order**

Vice-Chair Kalinowski called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

2. **Roll Call**

Commissioners J. Burton, Hirst, Kalinowski, Miller, Thomas, and Zimmerman were present for roll call. Chair B. Burton arrived after agenda item 5A.

3. **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.

No public participation.

4. Approval of January 22nd, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Burton motioned to approve the January 22nd, 2018 minutes. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

5. Business

A. Review of APN 109-02-001S for Open Space Value (15 Minutes) – Betsy Emery

Requested Action: Matrix and Motion

Ms. Emery brought a specific portion of parcel APN 109-02-001S to the Commission to determine if it has open space value. The Commission focused on the 4.5 acre portion of the parcel bounded by Forest Avenue and West Street. Before the Commission began matrixing the parcel, Ms. Emery provided background information about the parcel, including that the parcel contains a water easement, provides drainage for water running off of Mount Elden/Dry Lake Hills, has a few social trails, and contains a trash can which is serviced by Safeway. The parcel was not included in Proposition 413 or the property boundaries for Buffalo Park. The Commission concluded that the triangle portion of parcel 109-02-001S does not have a buffer since it is surrounded by roads, has no ecological values, and does not provide accessibility, recreation, nor educational opportunities. The parcel might have cultural resources, but the Commission was unsure. Ms. Emery state that the parcel is part of the Scenic View Resource Corridor. Ms. Charity Lee, Real Estate Manager, confirmed that the parcel has a scenic easement document. Commissioner J. Burton motioned that parcel 109-02-001S does not have open space value. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. Commissioner Zimmerman asked if the Commission would like to table the agenda item until they have more information on the Scenic View Resource Corridor. Commissioner Zimmerman motioned for the review of parcel 109-02-001S be tabled until the next Commission meeting and asked staff to research the Scenic View Resource Corridor and the scenic easement documentation. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

B. Access Analysis of Passive Parcels and Open Space Outcome and Next Steps (25 Minutes) – Betsy Emery

Requested Action: Informational and Input

Ms. Emery shared a web map with the outcomes of the Open Space Access Analysis. Ms. Emery showed the Commission different layers such as access to only legally designated open space (LDOS) properties, access to LDOS and passive parcels, activity centers derived from the Regional Plan, and FUTS trails (planned and proposed). Ms. Emery stated that the next step is to overlay demographic data to determine whether access is equitable across demographic types. The Commission was still interested in State Trust Land and how it could affect the analysis. Ms. Emery will bring back further analysis for the April Commission meeting.

C. Open Spaces Commission Strategic Plan Discussion and Update (20 Minutes), Betsy Emery

Requested Action: Update and Adopt

Ms. Emery brought the Open Spaces Commission Strategic Plan to the Commission and asked for them to make comments. Ms. Emery stated that the

plan was from 2015 and wanted to know if it is accurately describing the Commission's goals. Commissioner Miller asked for a timeline of accomplishments to be added into the plan. Ms. Emery asked the Commission to read over the plan and come prepared to the April meeting with potential changes to update the document.

D. Open Space Program Budget Requests Update (20 Minutes) – Betsy Emery

Requested Action: Informational

Ms. Emery informed the Commission that the Sustainability Section has submitted their budget requests for the upcoming budget cycle. The Open Space Specialist is the top priority for the Sustainability Section. The Open Space Program also requested funding for an Open Space Intern, additional funding for the Schultz Creek Trailhead, \$100,000 to hire a consultant to create a comprehensive trail plan for Observatory Mesa Natural Area, \$2,000 for the Indigenous Youth STEM Academy, and funds to improve parking facilities at Picture Canyon.

E. McMillan Mesa Natural Area Management Planning (15 Minutes) - Betsy Emery

Emery

Requested Action: Informational and Input

Ms. Emery sent a preliminary draft of the McMillan Mesa Natural Area Management Plan to the Commission and asked if they had any comments or suggestions. The Commission will bring their thoughts to the next Commission meeting.

6. Reports and Updates

A. Schultz Creek Trailhead Update (5 Minutes) – Betsy Emery

Requested Action: Informational

No updates.

B. Open Space Management Update (5 Minutes) – Betsy Emery

Requested Action: Informational

Ms. Emery stated that someone vandalized a boulder near the Waterbird Site at Picture Canyon. Ms. Emery is bringing a rock art expert to mitigate the damage. The Commission asked if it was possible to add more signs to educate visitors not to engage in vandalism. Vice-Chair Kalinowski shared that Ms. Emery received the Young Professional Award from the Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals and recognized her for her dedication to the Open Space Program.

C. Open Space Program Events and Volunteer Update (5 Minutes) – Erin O'Keefe

O'Keefe

Requested Action: Informational

Ms. O'Keefe shared the Open Space Program's schedule of summer events with the Commission. The Open Space Program will co-host a few summer series events with Arizona Watchable Wildlife Experience at Picture Canyon. This year, there will be several volunteer events at Picture Canyon and Observatory Mesa. The Open Space Program will also have a McMillan Mesa Community Celebration. The next photo contest will be in April. Lastly, Ms. O'Keefe shared a short documentary about the Indigenous Youth STEM Academy.

- 7. Information Items To and From (5 Minutes) – All**
Vice-Chair Kalinowski asked for an email regarding the dates and programs from Ms. O’Keefe’s presentation.
Ms. Emery stated that there will be a joint meeting between Board of Supervisors and City Council on March 12th at 4:00pm. The recent land swap topic could appear on this agenda.
- 8. Future Agenda Items (5 Minutes) – All**
A. Bike Share Program, Nicole Antonopolous Woodman
B. Observatory Mesa Natural Area Access and Trail Planning, Betsy Emery/Martin Ince
C. Schultz Creek Trailhead Management and Visioning, Betsy Emery
D. Acquisition Priorities for Open Space and FUTS, Betsy Emery/Martin Ince
- 9. Adjournment**
Adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:09pm.

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.

Betsy Emery, Staff Liaison