

Open Space Alliance Council Meeting

at 119 Grove Ave. Prescott, Arizona
April 15, 2009

Meeting called to order by President Tom Pettit at 1:00 PM

Present: Jim Lawrence, Andrea Banks, JD Greenberg, Charlene Craig, Howard
Mechanic, Ed Parry, Tom Slaback

Tom P. talked to Debbie Horton regarding property near the West Granite Creek Park for parks or Open Space. The Open Space Acquisition Committee will look into it.

We got an email that Arizona State Parks Heritage Funds may be redirected to other programs.

Minutes of the March meeting were approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: No report submitted.

Earth Day:

Nancy reported that everything is falling in place. We have about 30 booths, and as a result of Sunday's Courier article there have been other inquiries.

Open Space Acquisition Advisory Committee: No report submitted.

Open Space Master Plan: Judy suggests we send a letter in support of moving this along. Jim said it is on the next Parks Committee agenda, and he suggested we wait until after their meeting. Jim reported that the Open Space Commission for the County made a presentation to the Supervisors regarding new requirements which will have 40% of the land for open space.

Sales Tax Extension: Jim L. is on the Citizens Committee that Council set up to look into alternatives. A poll started yesterday. There will be 600 calls primarily to people who voted in the last two elections. They hope to have it completed in about a week. If Council wants to meet the deadline they need to decide the specifics of a proposal by April 28th, which will be before the poll can be fully analyzed.

There was a discussion about the OSA position on this. We agreed that we are not now recommending that Open Space funding beyond 2015 be part of this measure to extend. Open Space should be kept separate from streets funding after 2015. However, we cannot agree on an increase in spending on streets from the existing .75% funding now going to streets. The other .25% will be going to Open Space.

We believe that in addition to the problem of a 1% extension going only for streets being an increase in funding for streets, that level could negatively affect possible future tax requests for other programs like Open Space. Any sales tax extension for streets must go only to provide for that portion of street maintenance or new streets to serve the needs of existing residents, and no portion of those funds should go to provide for that portion of streets needed to serve new residential growth. Tom will send a letter to this effect to all

Council members, and all OSA members are encouraged to send similar letters, or to write letters saying you have read the OSA letter and endorse it.

Greenways:

Laurel Freeman says June 6th the Aubrey to Granite Creek section will have a grand opening. Anyone who wants to assist, contact Laurel. Jean Trupiano, who was paid by the city to work on Greenways, will no longer be doing this work because of city reduction in funding.

Tom Slaback reported that April 29th 10 to Noon, will be the next Prescott National Forest Stewardship meeting. A problem has developed with PNF rehiring a couple individuals who have made it difficult to make progress.

Next Wednesday, April 22nd will be Earth Day celebration at Prescott College at the Crossroads Center from 11 to 5.

Attached is a proposal to amend the Bylaws. Members are notified that this will be voted upon at the May meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm

Minutes submitted by Howard Mechanic, Secretary

Below is an email regarding Bike Month, with events still remaining listed

Subject: [greenways] BIKE MONTH - spread the word!Hello Friends!Once again, Prescott Alternative Transportation has put together a whole month of events/activities in celebration of bikes as clean, healthy, economical - and just plain fun! - recreation and transportation.ÊBIKE MONTH IS APRIL 14 - MAY 15! And we need your help in spreading the word (calendars are still being printed!).Show your support for a more bicycle-friendly community by attending events during Bike Month - and bring your friends and family! There are events for all ages and interests - for families, for the over-21 set; for racers, recreation riders and commuters. Be proud in the fact that we don't know of any other community who organizes events every day for an entire month - not even Portland!Bike Month is our chance to inform more citizens about the great benefits of bicycling and to turn more car trips (especially those super-polluting short ones!) into bike trips. By getting more cyclists on the streets, it demonstrates the need for the city to improve conditions (safety and convenience) for bicyclists.So - please support the efforts of this year's Bike Month committee and help us get folks to attend events. Great fun is to be had by all, plus raffle opportunities, giveaways, helpful information, and more! Enjoy yourself while being community advocates. You can always check www.prescottbikeped.org for details and updates.Here are some highlights through the end of April (another update will be sent later!); all events are free and open to the public, unless otherwise stated:ÊRAFFLES: a Gary Fisher Mako mountain bike; a gift basket filled with New Belgium Brewing goodies; a vintage woman's cruiser bike (donated by HUB at Prescott College!).FREE DRAWING FOR NEW FRONTIERS

GIFT BASKET: anyone who bikes in to New Frontiers during Bike Month is eligible to enter. ONGOING MT. BIKE AND ROAD RIDES LEAD BY PRESCOTT CYCLING CLUB: Rides scheduled for each Tues., Wed., Thur., Sat., Sun. during Bike Month. See our website (or the PCC website: www.prescottcycling.org) for times, meeting places, etc. APRIL 24 - "Kidical Mass", 5:30pm, meet on northside of courthouse plaza. A family-friendly community ride through town and on the Greenways Trail system to end up in Granite Creek Park for frozen treats! APRIL 26 - Bike Lane Stencil Day, 12pm, meet at the PAT office. Help the City's public works department in repainting bike lane symbols through town. Fun and important work! Refreshments provided. APRIL 27 - Bike-in Movie Night sponsored by New Belgium Brewing, at the Raven Cafe, 8pm. Tonight's movie: "The Bicycle Thief". APRIL 28 - Bike-in Coffee at Cuppers Coffeehouse, 7am. Again, check www.prescottbikeped.org for more details and any updates. SPREAD THE WORD; SHOW THE WORLD (OR AT LEAST THE REGION!) THAT WE SUPPORT A MORE BICYCLE-FRIENDLY PRESCOTT!