

Open Space Alliance Council Meeting  
August 15, 2007  
at 119 Grove Ave. Prescott, Arizona.

Meeting called to order by President Tom Pettit at 12:05 PM  
Present: Tom Pettit, Jim Lawrence, Howard Mechanic, Tom Slaback, Ed Parry, Becky West, Bruce McKeeman, Sally Hess-Samuels, Barbara Walrafen, Ashley Fine, Jeannie Flodd, Sequoia Shannon, Elisabeth Ruffner, and Libby Majors.

Executive Committee Actions:

Motion to approve final payments for Wildlife Symposium coordination. The two coordinators will get a total of \$1000 from our general fund. This will be paid at completion of the event. They will decide how to split it up.

Minutes of the July meeting were approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Report is BELOW.

Correspondence:

Emails from Bob Vogler of Prescott Valley regarding state trust lands in his area.

Tom attended the Central Arizona Land Trust meeting and there was coverage in the Courier. The Land Trust has no funding to do monitoring. In the future, when they agree to manage conservation easements, they will include planning for such funding. Some areas where development rights have been purchased will continue to have ranching and grazing.

August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm at The Community Center on Rosser will be the next planning meeting for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Mortimer Nursery will have an open house and invited us to have a table on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>, from 10 am to 2 pm. If we have volunteers, we will respond that we will have a table. We will inform CWAG, to see if they want to attend and maybe handout our information.

There was a discussion about Prescott's existing Open Space properties. The city is proceeding to put all the parties under conservation easements.

Carmen Stagg announced the Ripple Project event, from Oct. 3 from 4 to 7 at Prescott College Crossroads Center. Libby volunteered to do an OSA table there to try to get volunteers specifically for Earth Day.

Yavapai Trails will have a booth at the County Fair.

Wildlife Symposium:

Fundraising is going on. There is a poster. There was a \$3500 grant from the Yavapai Community Foundation for the upcoming display. We will be sending out a note to all the membership. Libby attending the Chino Valley Council meeting. There was interest

in OSA helping them plan their efforts in Wildlife/Urban interface. The other areas Councils will receive similar presentations. There will be TV shows and press coverage.

We need volunteers to help greet the public and hand out programs. There are other volunteer opportunities. Please contact Ashley at: 553-4309.

Jeannie announced she is making a covering for our table out of plastic and other materials. This will minimize brochures from blowing around.

Open Space Acquisition Advisory Committee:

Jason Gisi, representing the Fann Annexation, came to the last meeting and then there was a field trip to the property. The committee made recommendations regarding the placement of open space on the property. This is not for public release now. Jim Lawrence said it will be released after the developer and the city respond. The actual location of open space will not be determined until after the annexation is approved. Regarding the placement of the five-lane road: there have been discussions. The city, not the developer, is asking for this size road. There is a seven lane road coming down from the proposed Side Road 89A interchange.

There have been more positive contacts with landowners adjacent to Willow Creek. There will be discussions with Prescott Alternative Transportation. The new trail will be from the Willow Lake Trail next to the dam and then connect to the Peavine Trail.

The Executive Committee will try to schedule a meeting with Craig McConnell regarding the roads in the area of the annexation.

Earth Day:

There is an effort to combine promotion of the Granite Creek Cleanup and Earth Day. APS is considering a sponsorship. Libby will send a letter to the City asking for their sponsorship in the form of the band shell at no charge.

Our Annual Meeting will be Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 to 8:30 at the Freeman Building at the Rodeo Grounds. This is a potluck dinner and then meeting.

Future meetings will be the third Wednesday night of each month from 7 pm to 8:30, at The Grove.

Sally Hess-Samuelsen introduced some of the planning process regarding the Prescott National Forest. See [www.fs.fed.us/publications](http://www.fs.fed.us/publications) for the Forest Service Strategic Goals. See below for her email regarding an update.

The discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by Howard Mechanic

From Sally Hess-Samuels – August 21, 2007:

Hi, I thought you might like the link to the new proposed planning rule and the related Draft EIS.

As you might recall, in March of this year, Judge Hamilton of the Northern District Court of California decided that the correct process for rule-making was not followed for the 2005 Forest Service Planning Rule and she enjoined use of the rule--made it not usable. The Forest Service went back to work and have worked on the parts that were deficient--a) providing for another comment period b) meeting the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (an EIS has been developed) and c) Doing a better job of consulting with the Fish and Wildlife Service on effects on Threatened and Endangered Species.

Therefore, a "2007" Proposed Planning Rule will be published in the Federal Register this week and there will be 60 days to comment on the documents. The following link will take you to the documents on the web page.

[http://www.fs.fed.us/emc/nfma/2007\\_planning\\_rule.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/emc/nfma/2007_planning_rule.html)

Once comments are received, they will be considered, a response will be provided, and modifications made.

Then, after review by the Office of Management and Budget as well as the Council on Environmental Quality, a final rule and EIS will be published--maybe in January of '08.

Below you'll find a summary of alternatives considered during Proposed Rule development. The "preferred alternative" is Alternative A. Please call if you have questions.

#### Alternatives

Alternative A: Proposed Action - The proposed action is to complete rulemaking on the 2005 rule as published on January 5, 2005 (70 FR 1022).

Alternative B: No Action - This alternative consists of the 2000 rule without any options to use any 1982 rule provisions.

Alternative C: 1982 Rule - Effects of this alternative will be based

on the assumption that plan amendments and revisions will be prepared under the provisions of the 1982 rule, as provided in the transition language for 2000 rule.

Alternative D: 2005 Rule Modified - This alternative is the same as the proposed action above (Alternative A) with the following modification:

- . No EMS requirement

Alternative E: 2005 Rule Modified - This alternative is the same as the proposed action (Alternative. A) with the following modifications

- . No EMS requirement
- . Includes the timber management requirements from the 2002 proposed rule, including:
  - o Limitations on even-aged timber harvest methods.
  - o Maximum size openings.
  - o Requirements for achieving aesthetic objectives.
  - o Requirements for maintaining or restoring soil and water resources.
  - o Requirements for interdisciplinary review.
  - o Requirements for culmination of mean annual increment and regeneration harvests, and
  - o Limitation on timber harvest relating to long-term sustained-yield capacity.
- . Explicitly allows standards that may include final decisions with prohibitions These standards may include specific final decisions (e.g., prohibiting motorized cross-country travel, prohibiting boat use on a specific river segment) without further analysis and decision-making by the agency that will prohibit otherwise permitted actions by the agency or other parties that may have effects.
- . NEPA according to agency NEPA procedures; may be a CE, EA, or EIS, depending on plan content.

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# OSA

## Treasurer's Report

14 August, 2007

**Balance Forward** **2250.26**

### Income

No income to report

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**2250.26**

### Expenses

Greenways display 203.63  
On-line fee 2.50

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**Current Balance (reconciled)** **2046.43**

### Badger P Mountain Fund:

YTD Interest- \$59.25

Balance- \$7051.14

### Wildlife Symposium Account:

#### Expenses:

On-line Service Fee- \$2.50

#### No Income:

Balance- \$2129.66

### Earth Day Account:

No monthly activity

Service fee- \$2.50

**Balance- \$550.57**

