

Open Space Alliance Council Meeting
July 18, 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, Lora Lopas, Sally Hess-Samuelson, Charles Pregler, Ashley Fine, Sequoia Shannon, Elisabeth Ruffner, Lou Bellisi, Barb Walrafen, Charlene Craig, and Jeannie Flood.

Minutes of the June meeting were approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Report is BELOW.

Correspondence:

The Executive Committee will look into if we are members of the Land Trust Alliance.

Open Space Acquisition Advisory Committee:

Elisabeth reported concerning the Bed Tax. There was an increase suggested by the industry and the Chamber to increase it from 2% to 4%. A small group came in and reduced the proposed increase to 1% instead of 2%.

Elisabeth requested the Committee be converted to a commission rather than a Mayor's Committee. There may be a new ballot measure for Open Space, but that won't happen until after the streets initiative vote.

There may be an effort to get Council to refer a ballot measure to continue the Open Space program past 2015 with a .25% sales tax and include maintenance.

Grant funds for extension of the Peavine Trail have been in the bank. Unspent was matching funds that have been moving from budget to budget. There was a suggestion by some Council members to use Open Space funds for the Peavine Trail. This will be on the Council voting agenda for July 24.

There are a couple vacancies on the Open Space Committee. If you are interested in serving, please contact Lora.

Wildlife Symposium:

Access 13 will tape some of the program for broadcast. The exhibit has been delayed until April.

Earth Day:

Next year Ashley won't be working on it much, since she will be teaching. Libby will probably be continuing, but will need someone else to help. This would be a good thing for a Prescott College student through the Ripple volunteer program there. We will be having a table at the College on the date when Ripple will be connecting student volunteers with local groups.

Greenways:

August there will be display at the Library. There is work on trails around the lakes.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

This should come back within the next two months.

Annual Meeting:

We will plan on October for a meeting. Possible locations: Nature Center, Library, Yavapai Title, or the Rock House at Yavapai College.

We need candidates for President and Vice-President.

Fann Annexation:

The sixty day comment period will expire September 12. At the present, the public does not have information about the infrastructure costs and how the costs are expected to be paid. (After the meeting I talked to Steve Norwood and he indicated there would be additional time given if the cost/benefit analysis comes in near the end of the 60 day comment period.)

The link to sending your comment is: <http://www.cityofprescott.net/email.php?id=54>

People should send in comments that you want the pertinent information about the infrastructure costs before making an informed comment.

There is a concern about how this area is a major Pronghorn area and this would fragment it. The Open Space Committee will discuss the location of proposed open space on the property.

Sally Hess-Samuels from the Prescott National Forest is starting a program to identify various portions of the Forest to determine whether some areas have special flora and fauna needs. They will also do a study of the economic and social attributes of the users of the Forest. Some of the plans in the past were strategic in nature and did not include environmental analysis. The courts threw out proposed changes in the rule-making process so the Forest will have more time to do informal discussions with interested groups. Sally can be reached at shesssamuelson@fs.fed.us

Meeting Adjourned at 1:55 pm.

Minutes submitted by Howard Mechanic

OSA

Treasurer's Report

19, July 2007

Balance Forward 2332.76

Income

No income to report

2332.76

Expenses

Access 13 organization membership 80.00

On-line fee 2.50

Current Balance (reconciled) 2250.26

Badger P Mountain Fund:

YTD Interest- \$59.25

Balance- \$7051.14

Wildlife Symposium Account:

Expenses:

Payment of \$250.00 each to Ashley Fine and Libby Majors- \$500.00

Staples Expenses- \$31.20

On-line Service Fee- \$5.00

No Income:

Balance- \$2132.36

Earth Day Account:

No monthly activity

Balance- \$553.07

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