

Open Space Alliance Council Meeting
June 20, 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, Barb Walrafen, Lou Bellisi, Tom Slaback, Ed Parry, Sequoia Shannon, Ashley Fine, Suzanna McDougal, and Jeanie Flood.

Minutes of the May meeting were approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Report is BELOW.

Correspondence:

Tom sent out a letter in support of Prescott Creeks grant application for restoration work at Watson Woods. Tom also sent a letter in support of the Circle Trail entering the Arizona Trails System

Earth Day: Report from Elizabeth Majors is BELOW.

Open Space Acquisition Advisory Committee:

Had a meeting to discuss the Rodeo Grounds. Report by Jim Lawrence is BELOW.

Wildlife Symposium:

Speakers are lined up. The web site is under construction. Letters to exhibitors went out this week. Kappa Delta Pi might help with set up. The museum exhibit has been delayed until 2008.

We can discuss at a future meeting the idea of participating in various events such as Springfest in Chino Valley.

Greenways: The committee met on June 14 with city staff to update on the progress. Some property owners attended. ADOT and Federal Transportation officials also attended, and seemed to agree on the direction of the process.

ATTACHED are a Greenways and Trails map and Fact Sheet.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

The survey results will be at www.cityofprescott.net

They should be linked from the main page. Attached is the comment sheet. (Note: This comment period is now over.)

The survey combined bike routes (even if there is no bike lane) on roads such as Gurley in with recreational trails. They should separate out transportation routes from recreational trails. Our members are encouraged to send in comment forms

Fann Annexation:

Mike Fann owns about 1100 acres in the Granite Dells. There will be a public meeting at 5:30 pm Monday in City Council Chambers.

Motion to budget \$100 web domain and web hosting fees. Approved

Susan McMillan has volunteered to update the web site.

Motion to budget up to \$50 for membership in Access 13. Approved

Announcements:

Ripple Project will have tables available for non-profits in October. We will participate.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:55 pm.

Minutes submitted by Howard Mechanic

OSA

Treasurer's Report

20 June, 2007

Balance Forward 2220.26

Income

Memberships and contributions 185.00

2405.26

Expenses

Post Office Box Rental Fee 70.00

On-line Service Fee 2.50

Current Balance (reconciled) 2332.76

Badger P Mountain Fund:

YTD Interest- \$28.75

Balance- \$7020.64

Wildlife Symposium Account:

Suzanna McDougal donation- \$500.00

On-line Service Fee- \$2.50

Balance- \$2668.36

Earth Day Final Report 2007

Overall I feel that Earth Day was another delightful success! Thank you to everyone who helped to make this possible. Please accept my apologies for the delay in composing this report.

Contributors:

This year we had thirty-nine contributing booths. I had sent out nearly one hundred invitation letters. I was greatly pleased to see all who were in attendance, but was left feeling that there could have been more groups. When I remarked to Ashley about this she said it was probably due to the fact that we hadn't gotten the invitations out until early March. She suggested that maybe we get them out as soon as late January or early February next year. I think this would work (especially if we had a little envelope addressing party, seeing as how this element takes some time).

Additionally, I think it would be great to have more food vendors. New Frontiers was supposed to come and had to cancel at the last minute. Pangaea Bakery has been reluctant to be there due to employee shortages. Crossroads Café was there but only brought sweets. Otherwise I don't know who else to invite; any ideas on this?

Publicity:

The publicity push went really well this year. All of the publications that I missed last year due to early deadlines were contacted in time. I also did television and radio, both proving to be successful. We had stories in the Daily Courier both before and after the event.

The posters were beautiful! We spent the extra money to have them crafted and printed by a professional and I think this helped give Earth Day a sharper image! However, it would be even better to have the printing costs donated. If I had worked on this element earlier I think we could have had that taken care of. Ashley had the good idea of including a preliminary poster in the mailing of the contributor's letter, which I think helped in getting the word out.

Fundraising: We were pretty successful with our fundraising this year. Although, I feel that this is always an aspect of Earth Day that could be a job in itself. As with other things this is something that should be started sooner. Some of the groups that I wanted to sponsor our event just needed to be contacted earlier in the year. I am already in pursuit of a few of these organizations. I did write a grant for the Prescott Area Arts and Humanities Council and was denied.

Personal connections are so key in fundraising so if anyone in our community knows a business owner or an influential employee then perhaps they should be the one to contact them? The Earth Day Coordinator should of course organize these efforts and compose an official letter, additionally though maybe the more personal approach would be successful.

New Frontiers was a big help. I am looking into getting a regular thing going with them; every year during April we should have a 5% Wednesday!

Entertainment:

I was very pleased with our entertainment this year. I also received excellent feedback from the community. Again, we needed to pay for a couple of these acts but I feel that it really brought our event to the next level. I could go on about how much I loved our performing acts but perhaps your feedback on this would be more helpful.

Conclusion:

This being my second year helped me to feel that things were a little smoother than last year. Of course every year I see room for improvements. I look forward to continue helping Earth Day reach more people and become an even larger success. Thank you again to all of you for paving the way and supporting me through this!

June 2007 Open Space Advisory Committee report

In addition to the regular meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, the Mayor's Open Space Acquisition Committee held a special lunch meeting on Tuesday June 5, 2007 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. to address the open space opportunities at the Rodeo Grounds. Mayor Rowle Simmons chaired the meeting with members of the

committee; representatives of the Rodeo; Tom Pettit of OSA; Council members Bob Roecker and Bob Luzius; Gary Kidd, the City Attorney and several other members of the City staff.

The Mayor presented a background of the negotiations to exchange the 38 acres of the Gail Gardner Way/Fair Street rodeo grounds for county full ownership of a 170-acre parcel that the county and city jointly owned near the intersection of Prescott Lakes Parkway and Sundog Ranch Road.

J.C. Trujillo and Johnny Reyes discussed the Rodeo's plans. Walt Anderson, Ron Smith, Tom Pettit and Jim Lawrence described recent explorations of the 4+ acres of potential open space and the value to the city of such open space in the heart of Prescott.

The rock outcroppings which are about 100 feet above the rodeo ground buildings and several hundred feet above the valley floor provide a 360 degree panorama of Prescott, Thumb Butte, "P" Mountain, and Granite Mountain. Unknown to many the "rock pile" is one of the few remaining examples of vintage geology in Prescott and is similar in elevation and terrain to "Dalke" before development.

A trail is possible from the North to the views at the top.

The committee voted to recommend to the City Council the purchase of the 4+ acres.

Jim Lawrence