

Open Space Alliance Council Meeting
March 15, 2006

Meeting called to order by President Tom Pettit at 5 pm.

Minutes from the February meeting were approved as amended to include Suzanna McDougal as attending and to note that the next Wildlife Symposium will be in the spring of 2007.

Present: Tom Pettit, Ed Parry, Howard Mechanic, Suzanna McDougal, Elisabeth Ruffner, Tom Slaback, Sequoia Shannon, Becky West, and Andy Tobin.

Treasurer's Report is attached.

Correspondence: Elisabeth sent a letter in support for the tourism grant to Prescott Area Coalition for Tourism to the Arizona Dept. of Tourism.

Tom P. met with Charlie O'Leary of the Trust for Public Lands. Charlie would like to keep up with local activity.

Elisabeth will draft a letter to Council in support of an Open Space staff person.
There will be a Greenways committee Friday April 7th at 9 a.m., at a place to be determined. If you would like to attend, please contact Tom P.

The State Trust Lands initiative has about 180,000 signatures and needs about another 50,000 for a cushion. There is a chance that the legislature will put an opposing referendum on the ballot supported by Central Arizona Home Builders and the Cattlegrowers' Association. To keep abreast of this issue you can go to
NK"http://www.conservingarizonasfuture.com"www.conservingarizonasfuture.com

The Wildlife Symposium has about \$1100 in the account. Elisabeth will ask Ashley to include this part of our budget as a line item on future treasurer's reports.

Earth Day

Howard read Libby's report on Earth Day. It is attached below.

Motion to approve expenditure of \$25/hr to Charlene Craig to design an Earth Day Poster.
Approved.

Motion to approve \$500 budget for other Earth Day expenses on top of funds available in our Earth Day accounts. If Libby needs further funding, it can be authorized by three ExCom members. Approved.

Libby should check with the City Recreation department to see if the portable stage is available. If not, we shouldn't bother with speakers because the acoustics are so bad.

As far as speakers, Dan Garvey of Prescott College, and other professors at Prescott College. Many speakers from last year would be good. We would like Libby to keep records of the various

activities she's done so next year's event can benefit from this experience. There is suggestion to have an Earth Day next year in Prescott Valley.

Trail Greenway Ark Project:

Warren Zager opened escrow on the Suzy Q's Roadhouse 69 property. He talked with Prescott College but the college can't move forward quickly enough.

Rodeo Grounds proposal: Our position is that no Open Space money should go to acquisition of the Rodeo Grounds.

The Verde River Partnership will have a meeting at Prescott College Crossroads Center at 9 a.m. this Saturday. If you would like to attend let Jack Herring know in advance

jherring@prescott.edu

Elisabeth read a draft letter to City Council to encourage the City to set up an Open Space staff position for at least half time this upcoming fiscal year and full time the next fiscal year

Announcement: Forest Health Conference will be March 21 at Embry Riddle.

The ExCom decided to have the Wildlife Symposium in May of 2007. Tom S. will talk with Chris to set up a job description.

March 25th the Sierra Club will have a "Meet Your River" hike near the headwaters of the Verde. If interested, contact Carolyn York at 541-1952.

Meeting adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Minutes submitted by Howard Mechanic.

OSA

15 March 2006

Treasurer's Report

Unreconciled Balance Forward \$3434.05

Income
Memberships and Related Contributions 525.00

\$3959.05

Expenses
Charlene Craig for design and layout 25.00
Reimbursement to Tom Pettit 33.53

Balance –general funds available **\$3900.52** **Unreconciled**

Badger P Mountain Fund:

YTD Interest 2005 - \$47.04

Balance – \$6915.07

Earth Day Account:

Expenses: \$400.00 – *payment to Earth Day Coordinator*

Income: 0

Balance - \$781.14 – *checking*

Balance - \$916.84 - savings

Earth Day Report
From Libby Majors

Water Talks:

The plans for these are almost solidified. I feel confident that I can finish these plans by Friday. That would mean that we have four speakers lined up to speak starting in the last week of March

and extending into the third week of April, just before Earthday. I have invited Andy Millison to speak on Permaculture, Ed Wolfe to speak on where our water comes from, Jack Wilson to speak on water availability and population growth, and Howard to speak on issues surrounding the Big Chino Aquifer and the Verde River. I have also invited the Prescott Creeks Association to participate but am still waiting to hear back from them. Once all the final details are cleared up I will begin really getting the word out. I will send out the final schedule to the OSA group email account on yahoo so all of you can see it. I will also get in touch with the newspaper, radio, and T.V. people.

Entertainment/Activities:

I am well on my way to booking up our Earth Day with great performers and musicians. I still need to line up some speakers though. Any suggestions? Also I am pretty sure we will be able to do another art car this year. Juanita is willing to facilitate the whole experience but she needs 150.00 for supplies. This money could come from fundraising, or from contributors fees. (I am not clear on what my budget is so far because people are still in the process of sending in their fees and I still haven't heard back from those who I contacted to request donations). However, I am sure we can work something out.

I am working closely with John Dale to help support his efforts to host a film festival the night of Earth Day. I am glad that he has initiated this event. We are meeting tomorrow to talk about how to help each other reachout to the diverse demographics of our community. He may also be showing some films a few times throughout the next month which I hope can also build some energy towards Earth Day

Publicity:

Now is the time!!!!!! I am excited about getting all these details worked out so that I can really get the word out about all the great things we are doing. I typed up a PSA for the actual day and now I just need to design the poster and get that ready to distribute. I tried to contact Kestrel and Mile High to ask if they wanted to gather some students to do the poster but they never got back to me. I feel a little crunched on time so I may need to recruit someone else. Ideas?

Everything else is moving smoothly. There are more and more details to track as the weeks progress and I feel excited and well organized. That is all for now. I will keep you all posted as things move along.

