



**CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Council Chambers – 606 Manitou Avenue
Monday, May 20, 2019, 6:00 pm**



I. CALL TO ORDER & ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEMBER OPENINGS

A Regular Meeting of the Manitou Springs Open Space Advisory Committee was held in Council Chambers @ 606 Manitou Avenue. Chairman Maio called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm and declared a quorum present. The following Committee members attended:

- PRESENT:** Michael Maio, Chair
Nancy Wilson, Vice Chair
Anthony “TJ” Maltese, Committee Member
Sheryl Cline, Committee Member
Gary Michels, Committee Member
Shannon Solomon, Committee Member
- ABSENT:** Sue Graham, Committee Member (excused)
- GUESTS:** Becky Elder, City Council Liaison
Christina Grow, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Andrea Sutela, Potential Alternate Member
Melody Daugherty, Manitou Springs Pollinator Project
Beth Chorpenny, Manitou Springs Pollinator Project
Steve Snyder, Archaeologist

1. Two Alternates needed, one alternate application pending for Andrea Sutela.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. April 22, 2019

MOTION:

Vice Chair Wilson moved to approve the April 22, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Open Space Advisory Committee, as presented.

SECOND:

Committee Member Maltese seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION:

There was no discussion regarding the motion.

VOTE:

Motion passed, 6-0.

III. AGENDA REVIEW and PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- IV. MANITOU CATS-** Report on Intemann trail rebuild, steps removal and trail closure with spur access from neighborhood north of project area. S. Toll (20-25 mins.)

Shanti Toll, Manitou Trail Cats Liaison, presented the proposed plan, schedule, and costs for the Intemann Trail reroute. City Council Liaison, Becky Elder, stated she was concerned about the timeframe for restoration and reclamation and felt it should occur at the same time as the reroute work as opposed to the following year. Steve Snyder, local archaeologist, stated the restoration and reclamation needed to be performed using native seeds.

City Council Liaison, Becker Elder, stated there was a section of trail near Bevers Lane which was in desperate need of restoration and reclamation. Committee Member Solomon stated he would reach

out to the Boy Scouts as this was a good potential project for the local Eagle Scouts. The Committee discussed searching for experts regarding rehabilitation and reclamation.

Mr. Toll stated he was planning to work with the City's Public Services Department for the relocation of new timbers and he expected trail groups from other entities to aid in the Intemann Trail reroute.

V. PARKS & REC ADVISORY BOARD (PARAB) UPDATE – Chris Grow and Tim Bresnahan (5-10 mins.)

Christina Grow, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Liaison, announced the Mayor's Bike Ride which was scheduled for June 27, 2019 at 5:30 PM at the Buffalo Lodge.

Ms. Grow also stated the OLM Waiver submitted by the City Arborist had been withdrawn and general discussion ensued regarding the reason for the withdrawal.

Ms. Grow stated there were several trees to be removed in the City, as recommended by the City Arborist, Alyssa McAlexander. Planning Director, Kimberly Johnson, recommended the Open Space Advisory Committee and the Parks and recreation Advisory Board hold a joint session to discuss policy and alternative solutions for dealing with problematic trees and invasive vegetation.

Ms. Grow stated she would also extend an invitation to the Open Space Advisory Committee for input regarding a plan for the Save the Flats Park located on Higginbotham Flats.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Officers-Secretary or adoption of alternating secretarial responsibilities (5 mins.)

It was determined there were no willing volunteers to serve as permanent Secretary of the Committee for the coming year. Chairman Maio stated the Committee would implement a rotating secretarial responsibility in which the role would fall on each member of the Committee at some point during the year which would follow an alphabetical list. Chairman Maio stated the minutes for this meeting would be the responsibility of Committee Member Michels.

2. June meeting scheduled for June 24, 2019 (1 min.)

3. Guest Speaker, Melody Daugherty, Manitou Springs Pollinator Project (20 mins.)

Melody Daugherty, representative of the Manitou Springs Pollinator Project, provided the Committee with a presentation regarding the use of the City's Open Spaces for the purpose of rebuilding habitat for pollinator species.

Ms. Daugherty stated she also wanted to broaden the current scope of conversation regarding invasive plant species, organic land management, and chemicals as she felt the current conversations occurring with the Committee were lacking in her perspective on the matter. Ms. Daugherty stated her group would provide a liaison at meetings to the Open Space Advisory Committee to participate in those discussions.

Committee Member Solomon suggested someone from the Pollinator Project apply for a position on the Committee as an alternate. Ms. Daugherty responded she was very interested in doing so.

4. 2020 Budget-Subcommittee

Chairman Maio, Vice Chair Wilson, and Planning Director Kimberly Johnson will set up an initial meeting to discuss the 2020 Open Space Budget which has an initial deadline of July 31, 2019.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Report Signage-S. Graham, N. Wilson; M. Maio, D. Becker and Kim Johnson (30-35 mins.)-Next subcommittee meeting, if needed, must be set.
 - A. Subcommittee Preliminary Recommendations-Scope of Work relating to Maps to be drafted by Planning Department
 - B. Rules and Regulations-staff to revise, discussion
 - C. Design, Materials and Construction-revised frame design to be provided by staff; cost estimates

Planning Director, Kimberly Johnson, stated she had spoken to the sign fabrication company who manufactured the signs for the City of Boulder, Colorado and was informed the company produced the signs in standard sizes, the smallest being three feet by four feet (3' x 4'). Ms. Johnson stated the size proposed by the Committee would be considered a custom sign and would cost more to produce. Ms. Johnson recommended the use of the standard sizes and the custom signage may be too cost prohibitive for the Committee.

The Committee gave the directive to Staff to send out the Trail Map Scope of Work to Mr. Houdek and Mr. Wolverton to obtain a bid for the maps.

The Committee recommended several minor amendments to the Rules and Regulations for trails and open spaces.

2. Report-Land Acquisitions and Donations-G. Michels, S. Solomon and M. Maio (10-15mins.)
 - A. Waldo Canyon Report- S. Solomon and M. Maio (5 mins.)
 - B. Acquisition/Donation Properties-S. Solomon and M. Maio-
 - (1) Black Canyon Properties; trail easements to Snider Quarry (10-15 mins.)
 - (2) Peakview-Daly-McGrew; Reppert and Coons (10-15 mins.)

Committee Member Solomon stated he felt it was not productive to continue attending the public meetings for the Waldo Canyon project as he had been informed much of what was being discussed was never going to happen or occur. Committee Member Solomon stated the stakeholder meetings were much more accurate and in line with what will actually happen.

The Committee discussed the strategic acquisitions of various parcels near the Black Canyon Open Space and in the Peakview area.

3. Report Trail/Open Spaces Maintenance-T.J. Maltese, S. Solomon, N. Wilson, G. Michels and M. Maio
 - A. Follow up weed removal project-T.J. Maltese and S. Solomon; Volunteer Release/Indemnification (5mins.)

The Committee discussed the potential for the Boy Scouts to perform follow up weed removal and were informed by Committee Member Solomon things seemed to have slowed down regarding the Boy Scouts, likely due to the end of the school year.

The Committee discussed the removal of signs pertaining to toadflax removal as it was discovered the methodology for removal of the noxious and invasive species actually encouraged its spread. The Committee was informed the correct control methodology was to spray the toadflax, rather than pull it.

4. Update-Management Plans for Iron Mountain and Black Canyon Cultural Assets-S. Solomon and M. Maio (10-15 mins.)

Committee Member Solomon stated he expected to have a draft for review by the Committee regarding the Iron Mountain Land Management Plan by the July Regular Meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee.

Chairman Maio and Dylan Becker, Planner I, informed the Committee they had performed a Site Visit to the Black Canyon Open Space and had obtained the GPS locations of the survey pins. Chairman Maio stated the next step was to perform the cultural and archaeological assessment of the property.

5. City Arborist e-mail (mins.)

Chairman Maio stated the City Arborist, Alyssa McAlexander, had withdrawn the OLM Waiver to use non-organic chemicals in certain areas of the City and had provided the correspondence which expressed this action.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business before the Committee, Chairman Maio adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm.

Meeting Minutes Prepared by: Dylan W. Becker