

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 28, 2017

1:30 pm

Open Space Visitor Center
6500 Coors Blvd. NW

Members Present

Don Couchman, Chris Green (Chair), Rene Horvath, Michael Jensen, Twyla McComb, Alan Reed, Tasia Young

Members Absent

None

Staff Members Present

Brandon Gibson (Acting Superintendent, Open Space Division), Tricia Keffer (Associate Planner, Open Space Division), James Lewis (Assistant Superintendent, Open Space Division), Barbara Taylor (Director, Parks & Recreation Department), Nathan Todd (Associate Planner, Open Space Division)

Visitors Present

Don Britt (COA Real Property), Dave Parsons (citizen), Richard Barish (citizen), Stephanie Yara (City Council), Bonnie Suter (City Council), Linda Shank (Open Space Alliance), Matt Schmader (University of New Mexico), Jerold Widdison (citizen), Hamish Thomson (citizen)

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Chris Green called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Don Couchman moved to approve the agenda; second by Alan Reed. Motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

3. Action: Approval of October 24, 2017, minutes

Motion: Don Couchman moved to approve the October 24, 2017, minutes; second by Tasia Young. Motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

4. Public comment

Members of the public discussed concerns about low-flying balloons and drones over Open Space properties.

5. Announcements and Correspondence

Motion: Alan Reed moved that the board not meet in December because of the holidays and schedule a special meeting January 9th, 2018, in addition to the regular January 23rd meeting; second by Michael Jensen. Motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Director Barbara Taylor discussed hiring a consultant under a professional technical contract to prepare the Candelaria Farm and Preserve Resource Management Plan.

6. Real Property Report

Don Britt (COA Real Property) updated the board on the sale of the Las Cruces property. Mr. Britt also updated the board on the City's application to the State Land Office to maintain land adjacent to the Northern Geologic Window.

7. Presentation: Tijeras Arroyo Open Space

Director Barbara Taylor presented on the Tijeras Arroyo Bio-Zone and acquisition priority parcels identified in the Management Plan.

8. Discussion: Evaluation matrix for land acquisitions

The board discussed the draft evaluation matrix for land acquisitions and the draft land acquisition program statement.

9. Briefing from Open Space Division staff on current projects

Brandon Gibson (Acting Open Space Superintendent) updated the board on the Open Space Division's major current projects.

10. Action: Proposed art installation recommendation

Brandon Gibson (Acting Open Space Superintendent) updated the board on discussions staff had with the artist and gave the staff's recommendation to approve the project.

Motion: Don Couchman moved to adopt staff's recommendation and send the project to the EPC as an extraordinary facility; second by Tasia Young. Motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

11. Candelaria Farm Preserve advisory group update

Michael Jensen updated the board on the Candelaria Farm Preserve Technical Advisory Group's status and the board and public discussed next steps.

12. Action: Appoint Candelaria TAG OSAB representative

Motion: Tasia Young moved to appoint Alan Reed as the new Open Space Advisory Board representative on the Candelaria Technical Advisory Group; second by Renee Horvath. Motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

13. Discussion: Proposed legislation to define a statement of purpose for Open Space

The board deferred this item until the January 9th meeting.

14. Adjournment

Motion: Michael Jensen moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:19 pm; second by Alan Reed. Motion passed unanimously, 7-0.