

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

June 9, 2016

4:00 – 6:00 pm

Present: Eric Anderson, Rob Erickson, Gerhard Knudsen, Bert Lindler, Ethel MacDonald, Daniel Spencer, Deke Tidwell, Regan Whitworth.

Absent: Alexis Gibson, Janet Krivacek, Anna Noson, Kevin Verlanic

Staff: Elizabeth Erickson, Paula Fisher

Public: Pelah Hoyt (Five Valleys Land Trust), Mark Schiltz (Montana Land Reliance), Kali Becher (Missoula County Parks, Trails and Open Lands).

Minutes – Motion to approve minutes from May, 2016. Bert moved to approve minutes, Ethel seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Rough Cut Evaluation of Deschamps Conservation Easement

Rough Cut evaluation of Deschamps conservation easement proposal

Discussion:

- Property located off Mullan Road and borders airport property.
- Request is for funding from both City and County portions of 2006 Open Space Bond.
- Discussed vegetation, land/water features and wildlife of property.
- Property owner wants a building envelope to include another home and two barns.
- Old homestead: Keep Latimer house for historical purposes.
- Deschamps want to keep an agricultural/grazing component.
- Bond funds are a match for NRCS funding and NRCS will do a thorough evaluation of the property, including hazardous waste assessment
- Important soils, bird habitat and proximity to river corridor.

Budget:

- Bond funds request - \$262,500 from City portion of Open Space Bond
- \$262,000 from County portion of Open Space Bond
- \$512,500 match from NRCS funding
- Estimated easement value – \$1,025,000.00
- Total anticipated project costs \$1,072,750.00
- The family is willing to cover a substantial portion of the additional costs.

Timeline:

- Deschamps family has been contemplating doing this for a long time.
- Project would potentially go to a joint public hearing before the end of 2016 and close sometime after that, possibly in 2017.

The committee then carpooled from Currents for a site visit to the South Hills Spur property, a potential 84 acre open space acquisition in the South Hills.

Adjourned: 6:30.