

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

January 27, 2010

09:05 –10:00 am

140 West Pine Street

Members Present: Marilyn Marler (chair), Pam Walzer, Dave Strohmaier, Bob Jaffe, Dick Haines, Renee Mitchell, Ed Childers, Jon Wilkins, Stacy Rye, Lyn Hellegaard, and Roy Houseman

Members Absent: none

Others Present: Jackie Corday

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Approve minutes.

Minutes of January 20, 2010 were approved as submitted.

II. FINAL CONSIDERATION AGENDA ITEMS

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS –

IV. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS –

A. [Discussion Date: 01/27/2010] Appointments to the Open Space Advisory Committee. ([memo](#)) –Regular Agenda (Marty Rehbein) (Referred to committee: 01/04/10) REMOVE FROM AGENDA

MOTION: The committee recommends Council approve the re-appointments of the following people to the Open Space Advisory Committee for the term commencing January 26, 2010 and ending January 25, 2013: Jeff Stevens, Jed Little and Tim Aldridge and appoint Bert Lindler for the same term and appoint Jenny Tollefson to a term commencing January 26, 2010 and ending January 25, 2012.

The Conservation Committee continued interviewing the applicants for the five open positions on the Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC). The City Clerk determined that all seven applicants can be treated as one pool for all the open positions.

Kylie Paul – is interested in serving on OSAC as she is conservation minded and has a focus on nature, and the outdoors. She has several degrees in environmental studies and wants to play a further role in this community. She thinks it is important to have many views regarding acquisition, management and maintenance of open space lands especially since Missoula has a diverse population. She has an educational background in techniques for protecting lands, is currently on the Parks Departments' Conservation Lands Working group and a member of the Mount Jumbo Advisory Board. It would be important to protect a diversity of lands especially those offering human recreation. It is important to compare what level of management is needed in deciding what lands to acquire.

Jenny Tollefson – has a background in ecology and thinks it is important to have a committee with a mixed viewpoints and backgrounds. With her background in ecology she can give advice in this area on open space lands. She is working with Five Valley Lands Trust as an independent contractor and does baseline reporting, field work and land owner contacts. It is important to preserve a broad representation across the geographic area. It will be important to work in collaboration with other groups to proceed statically on spending out the remaining open space bond dollars. The acquisition or easement of a property is just the beginning of the process, and management and maintenance issues should always be a consideration.

Jed Little – has had an interest in open space which started in graduate school. He did a case study on Missoula Open space program in the early 90's, interviewed the key players, and did his thesis on open space lands. He wanted to continue his involvement with open space and successfully applied to the committee. The committee is beneficial as the money from the bond is citizen generated and acquisitions should be reflected by citizens as well as staff. This is a good process that has been working well. Jed works with the County Weed Department on vegetation management and mapping. He has mapped all of the city open space, knows the areas, knows the weeds and provides map to the committee or the Parks Department when needed. The open space lands are a diverse system and connection continue to remain important. His involvement with OSAC helps provide the links to open space and the urban area.

Spending of the remaining bond dollars will involve being opportunistic and continue partnerships. The campaign promises made with the new bond have almost been fulfilled. Each parcel should be reviewed for feasibility of maintenance as you don't want to buy property that is unreasonable to maintain. Even though funding is a challenge it is important for the city to acquire property and the Conservation Lands Management plan will help resolve maintenance and management issues.

After limited discussion by staff and the committee it was moved to recommend reappointment of the three applicants who reapplied to OSAC; Jeff Steven, Jed Little and Tim Aldridge. This motion passed by one vote.

Each member of the committee then gave their recommendation for the remaining open positions with the top two candidates recommended for the committee. It was moved to recommend the appointment of Bert Linder for the three year position and Jenny Tollefson for the one year term. This motion passed.

It was then moved to reconsider the motion to re-appoint the first three applicants. This motion failed. As there was not a unanimous vote, the item will be discussed under regular agenda items in committee reports at the next Council meeting.

B. Appointments to the Greenhouse Gas and Energy Conservation Team. – ([memo](#)) – Regular Agenda (Marty Rehbein) (Referred to committee: 01/04/10) **HELD IN COMMITTEE**

This item was not discussed.

V. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

VI. HELD AND ONGOING AGENDA ITEMS - PER COMMITTEE CHAIR – Marilyn Marler

1. Support for City employee cash for Bus Commuters Program ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Ben Schmidt and Nancy Wilson) (Referred to committee: 08/24/09)
2. Budget update on aquatics ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Lyn Hellegaard) (Referred to committee: 12/21/09)
3. Consider an [ordinance](#) amending Missoula Municipal Code Title 8, entitled "Health and Safety," Chapter 8.28, entitled "Garbage and Rubbish" to provide for special management of garbage in specific areas within the City of Missoula where there is conflict with bears and an [ordinance](#) amending sections 8.28.010, 8.28.030, 8.28.050, 8.28.060 and 8.28.070 Missoula Municipal Code for the purpose of incorporating Missoula County requirements for residential rental units and updating terminology, enforcement authority, and waste container management ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Pam Walzer and Urban Wildlife Subcommittee) (Referred to committee: 09/14/09)
4. Review Conservation and Urban Wildlife Subcommittee referrals. ([memo](#)) – Regular Agenda (Marty Rehbein) (Referred to committee: 01/11/10)

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.