

**Missoula County Open Lands Citizen's Advisory Committee
Joint Meeting with City of Missoula Open Space Advisory Committee
February 14, 2019
Minutes**

A. Call to Order and Roll Call (OLC and OSAC)

Alicia called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

B. Approval of Agenda

Juanita moved to approve the agenda, Sharon seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

C. Approval of Meeting Minutes (OLC and OSAC)

Ron moved to approve the OLC minutes, Jim seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Diana moved to approve the OSAC minutes, David seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

D. Public Comment on items not on the agenda

There were no public comments on items not on the agenda.

E. Introductions (OLC and OSAC)

Kylie asked for members of both groups to introduce themselves.

Shellie Nelson OLC - Paralegal

Diana OSAC – microbiologist UM

Eric OSAC – engineer

Deke OSAC

Rob OSAC – Attorney

David Cole OSAC – retired

Charles OSAC – National Parks and Protected area specialist

Juanita OLC

Elizabeth Erickson

Katherine G OSAC – Director research project

Edward OSAC – retired forest service

Betty Oleson OLC

Bryce Andrews OLC

Jim Cusker OLC

Ron S OLC

Sharon Sweeney OLC

Alicia Vanderheiden OLC

Regan Witworth OSAC – Retired

Juniper Davis OLC – Program manager for PTOL

Jonathan B OLC – Edu director Swan Valley Connections

Molly Kelley 3yr Law Student working with the City

F. New Business

1. Missoula Urban Area Open Space Plan chapter review discussion, small-group work

Elizabeth gave an overview of what the members can expect from the meeting. She said the groups are here to discuss the draft Open Space Plan.

Some of the history of the Open Space Plan

- The City drafted a plan in 1995
- The Plan was updated in 2006 by both the city and the county
- In 2017, city and county staff got together to start the discussion on updating the 1995 plan, meeting 8 times from November 2017 to October 2018
- An open house was held in Feb. 2018, followed by some focus group meetings
- There is a 2018/2019 draft plan which members of both boards have copies of and now have the opportunity to provide feedback to city and county staff.
- After staff has had time to incorporate the feedback into the draft plan, the plan will then be available for the public to review and comment on.
- This is not a regulatory document, but instead it provides framework and is a tool for the Missoula urban area

Kylie explained the exercise the members would be participating in to begin the discussion to generate feedback for staff.

The work groups reported back to the full committees:

Question 1: Do you think the 2019 cornerstone map/areas/data will help prioritize land acquisitions and open space conservation?

- *No points of disagreement*
- *Points of agreement:*
 - Have this map relate to existing land use maps and those exiting land use maps inform how this map is used
 - Prioritization of the cornerstone
 - Better delineation of needs for each cornerstone
 - “Freakout Factor” of being in a colorful circle in a map – land value and operations/use of land – what does it mean for people to be in these areas
- *Recommendations:*
 - Should evolve to include the selection process for projects in the plan
 - Needs analysis for each of the cornerstone areas
 - Include this information in an appendix and not the body of the text
 - Find a way to articulate the need to prioritize the cornerstones

Question 2 discussion moved to the end because the discussions for question 1 and 3 were similar.

Question 3: Does the plan provide a clear road map for the next decade with strategies of open space conservation in the Missoula open space planning region?

- *No points of disagreement*
- *Points of agreement:*
 - Guidelines, but no implementation plan
- *Recommendations:*
 - More maps to illustrate the different types of open space – communicate the difference between open space and open space with access, for example

- Map to show the current use of the land and projected future use of land (agriculture land vs. corridor)
- Find a way to identify the types of experience a visitor would have at different pieces of land
- More robust implementation chapter
- More guidance on how prioritization can be figured out (adding the criteria component)
- How to use the tools for future acquisition and management

Question 2: Does the plan clearly state the goals and vision of open space conservation in the Missoula open space planning region?

- *Points of agreement:*
 - Higher level goals within the document, but buried too far to the back
 - The document should be used to support those goals
- *Recommendations:*
 - Move goals and visions to the beginning of the document
 - Use the vocabulary from the goals and visions section in the rest of the document

Juniper identified some themes that came out of each of these discussions.

- Use the maps to tell the stories of the projects and open space
- Better address the prioritization piece of the plan
- Opportunity to flush out the implementation piece

Elizabeth talked about the next steps in the process.

- The notes the small groups generated will be used in the next evaluation of the plan
- Feedback will be incorporated into the plan
- Public comment will be open for 30 days, sometime in the next 6 weeks
- Public comment will be put together and incorporated into the draft plan
- Planning Board will have a public hearing, then followed by a public hearing by the city and county governing boards.

G. Adjourn joint meeting

The joint meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

H. OLC business

1. Stewardship Award vote

Alicia talked to the group about the recommended changes made in the document. Betty moved the committee approve the recommended changes. Shelly seconded the motion. The group talked about how they would consider the nominations made. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

I. Adjourn

The OLC portion of the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.