

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ABBREVIATED MINUTES
February 13, 2014
4:00 – 6:00 pm

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|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Present: | Adam Liljeblad | Bert Lindler | Absent: |
| | Ethel MacDonald | Matt Barnes | Gary Knudsen |
| | Tim Aldrich | Dan Spencer | Mary Manning |
| | Jenny Tollfeson | | Beth Hahn, Park Brd Rep |
| | Gabe Millar | | |
| | Anna Noson | | |

Also Present: Elizabeth Erickson, Open Space Manager; Morgan Valiant, Conservation Lands Manager; Jim Habeck, citizen

1. Approval of DRAFT minutes of January 9, 2014. Minutes were approved as submitted.
2. Public Comment – Habeck – Does not want open space use to become homogenized. Glacier Park was developed and it should have been left a natural area. All want trees, lawns, shrubs and parks.
3. Announcements:
 - **OSAC vacancy** - There were eight new applicants and one re-applicant for the Open Space Advisory Committee. Staff will work with City council to determine how to best proceed with the interview process. The goal will be to have the new members appointed by the March meeting.
4. Open Space Program update and work plan update, Elizabeth Erickson

Erickson provided the committee with work plan and open space update. Erickson’s job is to implement some of the plans under growth management. The Master Park Plan, Active Transportation Plan. Her role is to help communicate with the transportation professionals to ensure trail designs promote multi modal transportation. There are land use issues related to roads, trails and funding. Her work with the Master Park plan includes subdivision review, tracking cash in lieu. She also works with legal issues associated with the MPP on encroachment issues with a process that is fair but systematic and preserves the park or the intent of the area. Another area is policy review including tracking legislation action related to transportation and subdivision.

Open Space projects: Deer Creek, PEAS, Easement Water Works Hill, Miller Creek, 14th Street

With the cornerstones in place, now looking for areas for connectivity and focus on underserved areas. There are neighborhoods out there that developing and will need parks, open space.

5. Conservation Lands Program update, Morgan Valliant
Season Highlights 2013
Major Accomplishment
 - Development of a Research and monitoring program for increase ability to monitor and set up multiple projects.
 - Expansion of plant propagation program with the funding of the greenhouse – Council also allocated funds for a greenhouse attendant

Numbers for 2013 include:

- Volunteers: 310 for 2,288 hours equates to about \$14K
- Trail construction: 1.12 miles with .4 new, rest were re-route
- Fencing – removed 1.5 miles
- Forest thinning – 101 acres on jumbo Marshall
- Invasive tree removals, N Maple, S Elm and Golden Willow
- Recommendation when purchasing open space is to preserve black cottonwood, host of invasive trees 4.1 acres of invasive trees removed. Removal is time consuming and costly
- Weed mowing – vacant city lots 108 acre
- Re-vegetation – seeded 1,505 pounds of seed across 128 acres
- Planted - 1912 native trees, shrubs, herb 6.5 acres
- Herbicide app – 154 acre sprayed across 785 acres of land
- Hand pulling 8.8 acres
- Sheep grazing – 1180 acres - Moved sheep pen – planted 1000 plants –
- Spray more pristine areas – specific plants
- Amount acres seeded needs to be doubled, cost for red and blue lines same, vegetation

Grants

15K CWD

- 2013 – 32K total
- Total budget = \$320K,
- \$547K GRANTS since 2008

Research highlights

- Habitat restoration
- Resource monitoring
- Plant materials – inventory, success
- Sheep and seed grassland restoration stats.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.