



**OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

Wednesday, April 11, 2018, 3:00 P.M.  
City 1 Building (City Hall), 300 N. Campbell  
First Floor, City Council Chambers

**Members Present: 6**

*Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart, Charles Stapler, Alyssa Cervantes Benavides, Robert Melson, Patricia White and Joanne Gwinn Burt*

**Members Absent: 2**

*Vice-Chairman Bob Geyer  
Don Baumgardt*

**Vacancy: 1**

*District 5*

**Planning & Inspections Department – Planning**

*Jeff Howell, Lead Planner; Nelson Ortiz, Lead Planner; Harrison Plourde, Senior Planner; Karina Brasgalla, Planner*

**Other City Staff Present:**

*Karla Nieman, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office; Patricia Dalbin, El Paso Water; Yvette Reyes, Engineering Division Manager, Capital Improvement Department; Jorge Castillo, Open Space, Trails & Parks Coordinator, Parks & Recreation; Jose Carlos Villalva, Real Estate Manager, Economic and International Development*

**Members of the public:**

*Marilyn Guida  
Dr. Rick Bonart*

**Establish a Quorum**

*A quorum of the Open Space Advisory Board was present.*

**Meeting Called to Order**

*Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.*

**Time Limits for Information Presentations:**

*There is a 15 minute time limit for presentations, with additional time granted at the discretion of the presiding officer. This limitation is applicable only to the presentation itself and does not include discussion and action elements of an item.*

**Call to the Public (items not listed on the Agenda:**

*Members of the public will be allowed 3 minutes to present, with additional time granted at the discretion of the presiding officer.*

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Discussion and Action:** Changes to the Agenda

*Staff requested postponing Item 8:*

**Information, Discussion, and Action:** Update from City concerning any plans regarding the property abutting Keystone Heritage Park.

**Contact:** Jose Carlos Villalva [VillalvaJC@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:VillalvaJC@elpasotexas.gov)

**2. Discussion and Action:** Approval of the Minutes: March 14, 2018.

Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart asked Board Members if they had any additions, corrections and/or revisions to the minutes. No responses from Board Members.

**MOTION:**

*Motion made by Mr. Melson, seconded by Mr. Stapler AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES.*

**ABSTAIN:** *Ms. Alyssa Cervantes Benavides  
Mr. Stapler*

**3. Information and Discussion:** Quarterly report from the Planning Division, Subdivisions Section, regarding land studies and plats approved in the Mountain and Hillside Development Areas.

**Contact:** Nelson Ortiz, [OrtizNX@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:OrtizNX@elpasotexas.gov)

Nelson Ortiz gave a presentation and responded to comments and questions from Board Members.



ITEM 3 -  
SUSC17-00001 Mont

Ms. Burt commented on the poor resolution, copy quality for Rezoning Ordinance #15672. She asked if staff could have high resolution backups or printouts here at the meeting.

4. **Information, Discussion, and Action:** Possibility of Open Space acquisitions and accomplishments being included in the City's Parks Department Facebook page.

**Contact:** Karina Brasgalla, [BrasgallaKX@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:BrasgallaKX@elpasotexas.gov)  
Jorge Castillo, [CastilloJX@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:CastilloJX@elpasotexas.gov)

Karina Brasgalla asked Board Members exactly what information they want posted on the City Parks Department Facebook page and responded to comments and questions from Board Members. Ms. Brasgalla noted the Open Space Advisory Board agendas are posted online.

Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart commented on the Albuquerque Open Space website. She asked staff to post OSAB information on the *City's Parks and Recreation Department* and *Visit El Paso* webpage.

The following members of the public commented:

1. Dr. Rick Bonart
2. Marilyn Guida

5. **Information, Discussion, and Action:** The preservation of access to the Lost Dog Trailhead and the State Park via trails through the Open Space of the North West Master Plan.

**Contact:** Jeff Howell, [HowellJB@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:HowellJB@elpasotexas.gov)  
Patricia Dalbin, [PDalbin@epwater.org](mailto:PDalbin@epwater.org)

Jeff Howell gave a presentation and responded to comments and questions from the Board.



Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart asked staff if the North West and North East Master Plans were Master Plans or land studies. She made remarks regarding a Public Information Request document she requested.

Patricia Dalbin made remarks and responded to comments and questions from Board Members. Ms. Dalbin will research the history of removing trees located on Long Dog Trailhead.

Ms. Burt explained some years ago the West Texas River Forestry Council planted trees along the bottom of the Lost Dog Trailhead, those trees are gone the current owner/developer for this property removed them.

Dr. Rick Bonart, member of the public, gave a presentation and responded to comments and questions from the Board.

**6. Information, Discussion, and Action:** Update on the status and projected completion of the Mountain to River Trail System project.

**Contact:** Yvette Hernandez, [HernandezYM@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:HernandezYM@elpasotexas.gov)  
Elizabeth Reyes, [ReyesEB@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:ReyesEB@elpasotexas.gov)

Elizabeth Reyes gave a presentation and responded to comments and questions from Board Members.



The following staff members responded to comments and questions from the Board:

1. Jeff Howell
2. Karla Nieman
3. Jorge Castillo
4. Pat Dalbin

**MOTION:**

*Motion made by Ms. Burt, seconded by Vice-Chairman Geyer AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT THE ITEM BE TABLED UNTIL NEXT MONTH.*

**7. Information, Discussion, and Action:** Update on the status and projected completion of the four trailheads (Thousand Steps, Thunderbird, Lazy Cow, and Roundhouse).

**Contact:** Yvette Hernandez, [HernandezYM@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:HernandezYM@elpasotexas.gov)  
Elizabeth Reyes, [ReyesEB@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:ReyesEB@elpasotexas.gov)

Elizabeth Reyes gave a presentation and responded to comments and questions from Board Members.



Antonio Zubia and Sharon Murillo, Martinez Brothers, contractor, made remarks and responded to comments and questions from Board Members.

Jorge Castillo, staff member, responded to comments and questions from the Board.

Dr. Rick Bonart, member of the public, gave a presentation and responded to comments and questions from Board Members.

*Per the Changes to the Agenda - Item 8 was postponed to the May 9, 2018 OSAB meeting agenda.*

**8. Information, Discussion, and Action:** Update from City concerning any plans regarding the property abutting Keystone Heritage Park.

**Contact:** Jose Carlos Villalva [VillalvaJC@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:VillalvaJC@elpasotexas.gov)

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**MOTION:**

*Motion made by Mr. Stapler, seconded by Ms. Benavides AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO RETIRE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**FOR THE RECORD**

*The Open Space Advisory Board of the City of El Paso may retire into CLOSED SESSION pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D, to discuss any of the items on this agenda, consistent with the terms of the Open Meetings Act. The Open Space Advisory Board will return to open session to take any final action.*

*SECTION 551.071 CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY*

*SECTION 551.072 DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY*

*SECTION 551.073 DELIBERATION REGARDING PROSPECTIVE GIFTS*

*SECTION 551.074 PERSONNEL MATTERS*

*SECTION 551.076 DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES*

*SECTION 551.087 DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS*

**CS1. Information and Discussion:** The Open Space Advisory Board will receive an update on the evaluation of properties for acquisition using Quality-of-Life bond funding.

**Contact:** Jose Carlos Villalva, [VillalvaJC@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:VillalvaJC@elpasotexas.gov)

*Discussion of this item will be closed to the public pursuant to the El Paso city Code, Section 2.22.050(A)(5), and Texas Government Code Section 551.072 Deliberation Regarding Real Property.*

**MOTION:**

*Motion made by Ms. White, seconded by Mr. Melson AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO RECONVENE THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING.*

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**9. Adjournment**

**MOTION:**

*Motion made by Mr. Melson, seconded by Ms. White AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADJOURN AT 5:13 P.M.*