



ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

CORRECTED

Wednesday, May 11, 2011, 1:30 P.M.
8th Floor Conference Room
City Hall Building, 2 Civic Center Plaza

Members Present: 7

Bill Addington, Robert Ardovino (1:41pm), Lois Balin, Terry Bilderback, James H. Tolbert, Kevin von Finger, and Charlie S. Wakeem

Members Absent: 2

Richard Thomas and Luis Ruiz

Member Vacancies: 0

Planning and Economic Development Staff Present:

David Coronado, Lead Planner and Melissa Granado, Senior Planner

Others Present:

Lupe Cuellar, Assistant City Attorney, Legal Department; Kareem Dallo, Engineering & Construction Management; Rudy Valdez, EPWU-PSB; Jim Shelton, EPWU-PSB, Richard Garcia, Land Operations Manager, Parks and Recreation; Trish Tanner, Jobe, Kevin Lovell, citizen

1. Meeting Called to Order

Chair Wakeem called the meeting to order at 1:34pm.

2. Call to the Public (items not listed on the agenda)

None

3. Discussion and Action

a. Approval of Minutes: April 27, 2011

Chair Wakeem asked Board Members if there were any additions, corrections, or revisions.

Ms. Balin questioned the "ND" behind LEED. ND means neighborhood development.

Chair Wakeem explained the recommendation by the Landscape Subcommittee was to allow the credit exception for palm trees only, not just non-native plants in general. It was his belief that the OSAB followed that recommendation. He requested Staff change "non-native plants" to "palm trees".

Mr. Coronado responded he listened to the recording and verified that Mr. Thomas did state “non-native plants” in his motion.

MOTION:

*Motion made by Mr. Bilderback, seconded by Mr. von Finger and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR APRIL 27, 2011.***

b. Changes to the Agenda

None

4. **Discussion and Action:** Update on Resler and Interstate Highway 10 project.
Contact: Antonio Uribe, Jr., Texas Department of Transportation

MOTION:

*Motion made by Mr. Tolbert, seconded by Mr. von Finger **AND UNAMIOUSLY CARRIED TO POSTPONE FOR TWO WEEKS.***

5. **Discussion and Action** on recommending that City Council initiate action to purchase property identified in the Open Space Master Plan.
Contact: Charlie Wakeem, charliewak@sbcglobal.com

MOTION:

*Motion made by Mr. von Finger, seconded by Mr. Bilderback **AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO POSTPONE TWO WEEKS.***

Board Members requested Staff prepare backup information ~~of the entire Keystone Heritage Park property to include acreage, maps, and zoning~~ **for the land surrounding Keystone Heritage Park.**

6. **Discussion and Action** on the Public Service Board’s Stormwater Advisory Committee.
Contact: Charlie Wakeem, charliewak@sbcglobal.net

Chair Wakeem explained the OSAB priority list goes to the Stormwater Advisory Committee before going to the PSB. He explained the Committee meets very, very sporadically and, as far as the acquisition of open space, the Committee should be bypassed. It was his opinion that Board Members make that recommendation.

Mr. Tolbert asked why the Stormwater Advisory Committee shouldn’t be dissolved if the OSAB was going to bypass. He added Board Members could make a recommendation to dissolve the Committee.

Chair Wakeem noted that it is not within the purview of the OSAB to dissolve the Committee.

Mr. Valdez explained the Stormwater Advisory Committee evaluates other stormwater projects and the related CIP (Capital Improvement Projects); he advised the Board not to dissolve the Committee. Additionally, Mr. Archuleta would like the Stormwater Advisory Committee to remain intact.

Mr. Ardovino moved to approve and explained, regarding items related to open space; we are the Open Space Advisory Committee we should handle our own recommendations and therefore bypass the Stormwater Advisory Committee for items identified for acquisition.

FOR CLARIFICATION

Ms. Cuellar clarified Board Members are making a recommendation to City Council to remove that function from this Board.

MOTION

Motion made by Mr. Ardovino, in terms of the Stormwater Advisory Committee, that the Stormwater Advisory Committee be separated from any decisions on open space land.

Ms. Cuellar suggested “ ... *remove the function of recommending stormwater acquisition.*”

Chair Wakeem asked there were any further decision from the Board.

Mr. Bilderback requested the motion be restated.

Ms. Cuellar reiterated the Board is making a recommendation to Council removing from the Stormwater Acquisition Committee the function of stormwater property acquisition.

Mr. Valdez explained the PSB and City Council jointly created the Stormwater Advisory Committee.

Ms. Cuellar responded should City Council approve this recommendation; Council Members may request Staff coordinate with the PSB.

Mr. von Finger noted the recommendation is to remove all stormwater property acquisition; however, not all stormwater property acquisition relates to open space.

Ms. Cuellar asked if the request was only as it relates to open space.

Chair Wakeem added “*only as it relates to open space and the 10% stormwater dedicated funds*”. He asked if Mr. Ardovino would accept the amendment to his motion. Mr. Ardovino agreed.

MOTION:

Motion made by Mr. Ardovino, seconded by Mr. Tolbert THAT THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMEND TO CITY COUNCIL THAT THE FUNCTION OF

RECOMMENDING STORMWATER ACQUISITION BE REMOVED FROM THE STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

AMENDED MOTION:

Motion made by Mr. Ardivino, seconded by Mr. Tolbert AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMEND TO CITY COUNCIL THAT THE FUNCTION OF RECOMMENDING STORMWATER ACQUISITION BE REMOVED FROM THE STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

7. Discussion and Action regarding Arroyo 41-A development.

Contact: Jorge Azcarate, CEA Group; Doug Schwartz, Southwest Land Development Services

Chair Wakeem explained Mr. Azcarate is out of town; however, he requested the item be postponed two weeks.

MOTION:

Motion made by Mr. Ardivino, seconded by Mr. von Finger AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO POSTPONE TWO WEEKS.

8. Discussion and Action: Update on providing pedestrian access to designated state trailheads. Contact: Richard Garcia, garciarg@elpasotexas.gov

Mr. Garcia distributed to the Board Members a list of State Trailheads that lead to existing well-formed hike/bike/jeep trails within the State Park. He explained the OSAB recommended to City Council that Staff research other potential entrances to the State Park; due to Ocotillo Estates Subdivision preventing pedestrian access to the Franklin Mountain State Park. Representative O'Rourke wanted to ensure that access to the State Park be available from every subdivision adjacent to the State Park. However, not every subdivision adjacent to the State Park has access to a legitimate trail. Furthermore, Park Rangers want to control access to the State Park via the Iron Rangers (collecting a fee).

Mr. Tolbert noted there is a city park, near the Shrine Temple, with an existing trail leading into the State Park over to McKelligon Canyon. He would like this to be added to the list of State Trailheads.

Mr. Etiwe responded he would place Mr. Tolbert's request under the "Low Priority" heading.

Ms. Balin referred to a large area of PSB land, northeast of Chuck Heinrich, leased by Bowen Ranch, with many holes and areas that are great access points to the State Park. She wondered if anyone had discussed this area.

Mr. Valdez responded the PSB Northeast Master Plan designated various trailheads; not shown on the map.

Mr. Tolbert explained Ms. Balin was referring to trailheads not existing but ready designated on the Northeast Master Plan.

Regarding the Northeast Master Plan trailheads, Mr. Garcia responded, the trailhead next to the roundhouse is an existing trailhead and therefore not designated on the listed. He then explained the compilation of the State Trailhead list.

Due to the developer's willingness to give the city the trail that accesses the State Park, Ms. Cuellar suggested, moving the Cumbre Estates trailhead to High Priority list.

Mr. Etiwe clarified the listed trailheads have been designated future locations for the Iron Rangers.

Mr. Dallo commented on a possible Cumbre Estates trailhead connection at Sky Island.

Chair Wakeem asked Staff which was the better trailhead, Ojo de Agua or Los Pueblos.

Mr. Lovell, Staff and Board Members discussed issues regarding the trailhead at Ojo de Agua Park on Los Pueblos. Additionally, via another street, Mr. Lovell explained there is a PSB gate and rock wall blocking access to the State Park. In the future, Mr. Garcia responded, the City and the PSB will sign a Memorandum of Understanding allowing access to the State Park.

Chair Wakeem suggested the trailhead at Ojo de Agua Park at Los Pueblos be listed as number five (5) under "High Priority".

Staff will meet with Legal Staff to discuss the prioritized list, MOUs and all other legal matters.

Chair Wakeem asked if members of the public wished to comment. There were none.

No further comments or questions from the Board.

1st MOTION:

Motion made by Mr. Tolbert, seconded by Mr. Ardovino AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO LIST OJO DE AGUA PARK AT LOS PUEBLOS NUMBER FIVE UNDER HIGH PRIORITY.

2nd MOTION:

Motion made by Mr. Tolbert, seconded by Mr. Ardovino AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO MOVE MEDIUM PRIORITY, ITEM 7 - CASTELLANO AT CUMBRE ESTATES, TO HIGH PRIORITY.

3RD MOTION:

Motion made by Mr. Tolbert, seconded by Mr. von Finger AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO

ADD THE SECOND TIER TO THE HIGH PRIORITY LIST, WITH THE STIPULATION THAT IT BE IDENTIFIED AS THE PARK AREA DISCUSSED BY THE BOARD.

After the vote, Mr. Ardovino asked North Stanton should be renamed Lower North Stanton at 1000 Steps.

4TH MOTION:

Motion made by Mr. Ardovino, seconded by Mr. von Finger AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO RENAME NORTH STANTON AS "NORTH STANTON AT 1000 STEPS.

Mr. Garcia explained Staff will redo the maps and email to Board Members and Staff.

9. Discussion and Action: Items for Future Agendas

Chair Wakeem requested the three postponed agenda items 4, 5, and 7 be noted on the next OSAB agenda.

4. **Discussion and Action:** Update on Resler and Interstate Highway 10 project.
5. **Discussion and Action** on recommending that City Council initiate action to purchase property identified in the Open Space Master Plan, more specifically north of Keystone to Osborne.
7. **Discussion and Action** regarding Arroyo 41-A development.

Ms. Balin requested a list other funding mechanisms in the Open Space Master Plan.

10. Adjournment

MOTION:

Motion made by Mr. Tolbert, seconded by Mr. Ardovino AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 2:37PM.

Minutes prepared by Donna Martinez