

Open Space Open Space



ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

PLANNING & INSPECTIONS DIVISION

Wednesday, June 8 2016, 3:00 P.M.
City 3 Building, 801 Texas Avenue
Basement, Thorman Conference Room

Members Present: 7

Chairwoman Lois Balin, Dr. Richard Bonart, Joseph Nester (arrived 3:12 p.m.), Dr. Richard Teschner, Robert Geyer, Patricia White, Ann Morgan Lilly

Members Absent: 0

Vacancies: 2

Planning & Inspections Department – Planning Division Staff:

Larry Nichols, Director; Alex Hoffman, Lead Planner; Ms. Kim Forsyth, Program Manager; Harrison Plourde, Senior Planner; Ryan Kirby, Planner

Other City Staff Present:

Karla Nieman, Assistant City Attorney; City Attorney's Office; James Wolff, Planner, EPWU-PSB; Rudy Valdez, Program Manager, Capital Improvement Department (CID)

Member of the Public:

Marilyn Guida

1. Meeting Called to Order

Chairwoman Balin called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

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

None.

3. Discussion and Action:

- a. Changes to the Agenda.

Upon the arrival of Mr. Nester, Chairman Balin requested moving **item 11.** to the forefront of the agenda.

11. Information and Discussion: Report from the Development Working Committee.

Contact: Joseph Nester, joseph@kaizen-ep.com

- b. Approval of Minutes: May 11, 2016.
Chairwoman Balin asked if Board Members had any additions/changes/revisions.

Dr. Bonart amended the minutes as follows, under “*Member(s) of the Public:*” change ~~Shannon~~ (Bonart) to **Sharon** (Bonart).

MOTION:

Motion made by Dr. Teschner, seconded by Dr. Bonart AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY, 11th 2016, AS REVISED.

4. **Discussion and Action:** Election of OSAB Vice-Chair for the remaining 2016 term.
Contact: Lois Balin lois.balin@tpwd.texas.gov

Dr. Teschner nominated Dr. Bonart as OSAB Vice-Chairman for the remaining 2016 term, Ms. Lilly seconded the nomination.

No other nominations provided.

MOTION:

Motion made by Dr. Teschner, seconded by Ms. Lilly AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ELECT DR. BONART OSAB VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE REMAINING 2016 TERM.

5. **Information and Discussion:** El Paso Water Utility (EPWU) Quarterly Report for March to June 2016. Contact: James Wolff, jwolff@epwu.org

Mr. Wolff, Planner, EPWU-PSB, presented the EPWU Quarterly Report for March 2016 to May 2016 and responded to Board Member’s comments and questions.

6. **Information and Discussion:** Information proving detail on El Paso Water Utilities (EPWU) \$2 million stormwater bond. Contact: James Wolff, jwolff@epwu.org

Mr. Wolff gave a presentation and responded to Board Member’s comments and questions.

Ms. Nieman, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney’s Office, commented.

7. **Information and Discussion:** Update on the use of stormwater retention ponds for passive recreation, per the Open Space Master Plan. Contact: James Wolff, jwolff@epwu.org

Mr. Wolff, Planner, EPWU-PSB, gave a presentation and responded to Board Member's comments and questions.

8. **Discussion and Action:** Possible alternative trail route for the Mountain to River Trail Project. Contacts: Lois Bain, lois.balin@tpwd.texas.gov
Richard Bonart, rickbonart@earthlink.net

Vice-Chairman Bonart gave a presentation on possible alternative trail routes for the Mountain to River Trail Project and responded to comments and questions from Board Members and staff members. He recommended asking Texas Gas Service to allow access to their Gasoline Road right-of-way.

The following staff members commented:

1. Ms. Karla Nieman, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office;
2. Mr. Rudy Valdez, Program Manager, Capital Improvement Department (CID);
3. Mr. Larry Nichols, Director, Planning & Inspections Department

NO ACTION

9. **Discussion and Action:** Clarification of the Quality of Life (QOL) 8 year funding schedule allocations and charges. Contact: Richard Bonart, rickbonart@earthlink.net

Vice-Chairman Bonart gave a presentation regarding the OSAB allocations starting September, 2013.

Mr. Rudy Valdez, Program Manager, Capital Improvement Department (CID), commented.

Ms. Marilyn Guida, member of the public, commented.

NO ACTION

CLOSED SESSION

FOR THE RECORD

Chairwoman Balin read following into 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. Discussion and Action:** Update on the El Paso Water Utilities–Public Service Board’s list of properties for acquisition in the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year using Stormwater funding. 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. Contact James Wolff, jwolff@epwu.org

- CS2. Information and Discussion:** Updated information on the City’s negotiations concerning properties identified in the OSAB priority list. 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. Contact: Rudy Valdez, valdezrx1@elpasotexas.gov

Following the Closed Session, Board Members reconvened the meeting.

- 10. Information and Discussion:** Update on the progress of the Natural Open Space (NOS) ordinance and the 2016 City Council memo regarding direction of city staff. Contact: Alex Hoffman, hoffmanap@elpasotexas.gov

Mr. Hoffman, Lead Planner, explained the public hearing for the Natural Open Space (NOS) ordinance will be heard at the June 28th City Council meeting. The 2016 City Council memo regarding direction of city staff and the property acquisition list was forwarded to the Representatives for discussion in Executive Session.

- 11. Information and Discussion:** Report from the Development Working Committee. Contact: joseph@kaizen-ep.com

Chairwoman Balin requested the item be postponed to the July 6th OSAB meeting.

12. Adjournment

MOTION:

Motion made by Ms. Teran, and seconded by Ms. White AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADJOURN.