

Open Space Open Space



ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

PLANNING & INSPECTIONS DIVISION

Wednesday, December 9th, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

City 3 Building, 801 Texas Avenue

Basement, Thorman Conference Room

Members Present: 5

Chairwoman Lois Balin, Dr. Richard C. Bonart, Joseph Nester, Dr. Richard V. Teschner, and Patricia White

Members Absent: 4

Vice-Chairman Jim Tolbert, Katrina Martich, Maria Teran, and Ann Morgan Lilly

Vacancies: 0

Planning & Inspections Department – Planning Division Staff:

Alex Hoffman, Lead Planner; Kimberly Forsyth, Program Manager; Anne Antonini, Planner; Harrison Plourde, Planner; Ryan Kirby, Planner

Other City Staff Present:

Brie Franco, Assistant City Attorney; City Attorney's Office; Cynthia Osborn, Real Estate Counsel, EPWU; Rudy Valdez, Program Manager, Capital Improvement Department (CID); Gonzalo Cedillos, P.E., Stormwater Engineering Manager, EPWU-PSB; Judy Ackerman, public

1. Meeting Called to Order

Chairwoman Balin called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

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

Staff requested members of the public sign in prior to speaking to the Board.

Chairwoman Balin explained this time is allotted for members of the public to address the Board on matters that are not posted on the agenda today. Board Members may only listen; they cannot debate or discuss issues brought forth.

Call to the Public rules:

1. Stand up;
2. State your name for the record;
(minutes are being recorded and will ultimately be posted on the OSAB web page);
3. Speak to the Board;
4. The Board can listen but cannot engage and deliberate in any discussion;
5. This is the public's opportunity to speak to the Board on matters not posted on today's agenda;
6. If you wish to speak on an item that is posted on the agenda, please wait until that item comes up for discussion; and
7. Comments by the public will be taken into consideration for future agenda items.

Ms. Judy Ackerman, public, made comments regarding Congressman Beto O'Rourke's plan to create a national monument at Castner Range, the crown jewel of the Franklin Mountains. She requested individuals and organizations, including the Open Space Advisory Board, to write letters to President Obama supporting the Congressman's plan.

Chairwoman Balin, Mr. Nester, Board Member, Ms. Franco, Assistant City Attorney discussed Ms. Ackerman's request. Ms. Franco explained that as an individual Board Members are welcome to write a letter in support of the request; however, as a Board, Ms. Franco would have to research that and provide the results of that research at the next OSAB meeting.

3. Discussion and Action:

- a. Change to the Agenda.

Item 8. Discussion and Action: OSAB Visibility Committee Update
Contact: Jim Tolbert, Vice-Chairman, diegotolbert@gmail.com

Chairwoman Balin noted Vice-Chairman Tolbert would not be presenting his report today; therefore, the item will be postponed to the next meeting.

- b. Approval of Minutes: October 14th, 2015

Chairwoman Balin asked if Board Members had any additions/changes/revisions.

MOTION:

Motion made by Mr. Nester, seconded by Dr. Teschner TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 14TH, 2015 MEETING MINUTES AS IS.

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Mr. Nester noted the missing name highlighted in yellow was Ms. Judy Ackerman.

Ms. Judy Ackerman, public, asked what the names were of the individuals serving on this subcommittee.

Chairwoman Balin explained the missing name highlighted in yellow was Ms. Pat White (Board Member).

Chairwoman Balin listed Vice-Chairman Tolbert (as Chairman), Mr. Charlie Wakeem (public), Ms. Pat White (Board Member) and herself.

Ms. Franco, Assistant City Attorney, suggested Mr. Nester move to amend the minutes to reflect it was Ms. Judy Ackerman who asked for the names of those serving on the subcommittee.

AMENDED MOTION:

Motion made by Dr. Teschner, seconded by Ms. White AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 14TH, 2015 MEETING MINUTES, AS AMENDED, TO SHOW MS. JUDY ACKERMAN IN THE FIRST YELLOW HIGHLIGHTED SECTION AND MS. PAT WHITE (BOARD MEMBER) IN THE SECOND YELLOW HIGHLIGHTED SECTION.

4. **Information and Discussion:** Quarterly report from El Paso Water Utilities-Public Service Board, regarding the acquisition of properties using Stormwater funding.
Contact: Cynthia Osborn, cosborn@epwu.org

Ms. Cynthia Osborn, Real Estate Counsel, El Paso Water Utilities-Public Service Board, gave the third quarterly report, *September 1, 2015 through November 30, 2015*, regarding the financial status of open space purchases and responded to comments and questions from Board Members.

Chairwoman Balin and Board Members Bonart and Nester commented.

Mr. Gonzalo Cedillos, Stormwater Engineering Manager, EPWU-PSB, responded to comments and questions from Board Members.

5. **Information and Discussion:** Status report on Paseo del Norte/Playa Drain Linear Trail project.
Contact: Rudy Valdez, valdezrx1@elpasotexas.gov

Mr. Rudy Valdez, Program Manager, Capital Improvement District, updated Board Members on the status of the Paseo del Norte/Playa Drain Linear Trail project and responded to comments and questions from Board Members.

There were no comments or questions from the Board or members of the public.

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. Information and Discussion:** Status of the 2012 Quality of Life Bond Open Space Acquisition 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
- CS2. Discussion and Action:** Review and provide input 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: Cynthia Osborn, cosborn@epwu.org
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Following the Closed Session, Board Members reconvened the meeting.

- 6. Information and Discussion:** Presentation on Open Space Master Plan implementation tools available to the Open Space Advisory Board
Contact: Alex Hoffman, hoffmanap@elpasotexas.gov

MOTION:

Motion made by Chairwoman Balin, seconded by Mr. Nester AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 6. TO THE NEXT OSAB MEETING, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2016.

- 7. Information and Discussion:** OSAB Development Committee Update
Contact: Joseph Nestor, joseph@kaizen-ep.com

Mr. Joseph Nestor, Board Member, updated Board Members regarding the OSAB Development Committee's goals and objectives and responded to comments and questions from Board Members.

- 8. Discussion and Action:** OSAB Visibility Committee Update
Contact: Jim Tolbert, Vice-Chairman, diegotolbert@gmail.com

MOTION:

Motion made by Chairman Balin, and seconded by Mr. Nester AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 8. TO THE NEXT OSAB MEETING, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2016.

- 9. Adjournment**

MOTION:

Motion made by Dr. Bonart, and seconded by Ms. White AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADJOURN AT 4:56 P.M.