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## ADVISORY BOARD

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February 22, 2010  
City Hall – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 12:30 P.M.  
Engineering Conference Room  
2 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, Texas

### MINUTES

**Members Present:** 8

Charles S. Wakeem, Lois Anne Balin, Luis M. Ruiz, Richard L. Thomas, James H. Tolbert, Kevin von Finger, Bill Addington, Robert Ardovino

**Members Absent:** Walt Phillips

**Member Vacancies:** 0

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** Gonzalo Cedillos

**Parks and Recreation Staff Present:** Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, Richard Garcia, Park Development Manager, Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant

**Others Present:** Patricia Adatao, Deputy City Manager, Fred Lopez, Planning Division, Mathew McElroy, Deputy Director of Planning, Jim Carrillo, Half Associates, Inc., Rudy Valdez, Water Utilities

1. Meeting Called to Order - Chair Wakeem called the meeting to order at 12:38 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes: January 25, 2010  
Chair Wakeem recommended the following *changes*:

Agenda: Item #2. Approval of Minutes: January 25, **2010**.

Item #7, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph: Add - "*Specific information as to whether there were any conditions on the lease after it was expired to reclaim the land.*"

1<sup>st</sup> page: Others Present: "State Representative ~~Judge~~ Joseph Moody."

Item#7, 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph: "Motion made by Chair Wakeem *to recommend to the Board to accept State Representative Moody's recommendation* to draft a letter to be approved by City Council so State Representative Joseph Moody can take it to the GLO."

Motion by Kevin von Finger to approve the minutes. Second by James Tolbert. Motion carried (unanimous).

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3. Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda)

Judy Ackerman, citizen, announced that on March 20, 2010 a celebration will be at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology with shuttle service to and from Cohen Stadium to raise awareness of Franklin Mountain Wilderness. Posters are available; event and parking are free.

4. Discussion, Information and Action: Review of Stormwater Utility Open Space Land Acquisition Budget

Rudy Valdez, El Paso Water Utilities, reported that they anticipate 1.4 million for this coming fiscal year.

Chair Wakeem requested information on the stormwater community advisory steering committee.

No action taken.

5. Discussion and Information: Progress on the Open Space Advisory Board Enabling Ordinance  
Jim Carrillo, Halff Associates Inc. professional consultant gave a summary of the review to be presented to City Council. He is reviewing the development process, technical review, vested rights, compensation, state law and property owner rights. Focus for OSAB was stressed on long range planning, funding strategies, and advocacy.

Other issues discussed:

- Grant funding
- Taxation for parks
- Park partnerships
- Liability compensation on development
- Discussion ensued on the progress of the internal review.

Robert Ardovino asked for specifics in funding sources. Mr. Carrillo stated that much of the funding was through bond issues and strong private advocates that purchase land when the City is unable.

Chair Wakeem asked status of enabling ordinance, the reinstatement of the paragraph from the Mountain Committee Ordinance and when will it go to City Council.

6. Discussion and Information: Staff overview of Planned Mountain Development Zoning.  
Matthew McElroy, Development Services planning division, reviewed a powerpoint presentation on two sets of regulations that apply to mountain development. Historical data was referenced on the planned mountain development district (Title 19). Mr. McElroy described natural drainage areas, amount of water used, grading and fire safety. (handout)

Discussion ensued on mountain/hillside development, re-vegetation benefits and the protection of natural features. Kevin von Finger requested information on the code regarding solar panels.

Pat Aduato commented on the prohibition of density based on slopes and prior litigation (Crazy Cat Development). Other area discussed was the Pinnacle Development.

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7. Discussion and Information: Staff Overview of Northwest Master Plan  
Rudy Valdez, reviewed a powerpoint of the land studies and Transmountain Road. Mr. Valdez discussed the PSB land that was sold to the State of Texas. Other topics reviewed:
  - Zoning
  - Smart Code
  - Mountain State Park
  - Trails (Mountain to River)
8. Discussion and Information: North Keystone Stormwater Plan  
Kevin von Finger presented the Board with a powerpoint presentation on the flooding in North Keystone.
9. Discussion and Information: Wildlife Crossing Along the Trans-Mountain Road Extension  
Postponed
10. Parks and Recreation Staff Announcements:  
Nanette Smekjal, Director of Parks and Recreation, requested support from both staff and board members for mutual cooperation with Agenda documentation (backup material).  
  
James Tolbert reminded members of Scenic Sundays.
11. Discussion Items for Future Agendas:
  - Ranking/Identifying Open Space Projects
  - Stormwater Utility Community Advisory Committee
  - Stormwater Budget
  - Follow-up on the enabling ordinance
  - Report on Grading Ordinance
  - Update report on Pinnacle Development
  - General report on public access to PSB storm water basins
  - Stakeholders Meeting 41A
  - Trans-Mountain Wildlife Crossing
12. Adjournment  
Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.