



OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 3:00 P.M.
City 1 Building (City Hall), 300 N Campbell
1st Floor, City Council Chambers

Members Present: 4

Chairman Don Baumgardt, Alyssa Benavides Cervantes, Patricia White and Sarah Elena Dillabough

Members Absent: 2

Vice-Chairwoman Dr. Rebecca Escamilla, Yvonne Cacho

Vacancy: 3

Mayor and Districts 1 and 6

Planning & Inspections Department – Planning:

Kevin Smith, Assistant Director of Planning; Karina Brasgalla, Senior Planner; Harrison Flourde, Lead Planner

Other City Staff Present/Other Presenters:

Roberta Brito, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office; Jorge Castillo, Open Space, Trails & Parks Coordinator, Parks & Recreation; Rocio Alvarado, EPWater; Ysenia Castro, EPWater-Stormwater Engineering; Daniel Lopez, Civil Engineering Associate, Capital Improvement Department; Nancy Hayes, CSA Design Group

Member of the public: 1

Bob Geyer

Establish a Quorum

A quorum of the Open Space Advisory Board was present.

Meeting Called to Order

Chairman Baumgardt called the meeting to order at 3:07 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.

1. Bob Geyer

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Discussion and Action: Changes to the Agenda

Staff requested item 4. be moved to the front of the agenda.

- 4. Information and Discussion:** *An update on Council action and staff recommendations made at the Council meeting of October 29, 2019 regarding the approximately 1,000 acres of land owned by the City of El Paso in northwest El Paso, including Lost Dog Trail.*

MOTION:

Motion made by Ms. White, seconded by Ms. Cervantes AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO MOVE ITEM 4 AFTER ITEM 2.

2. Discussion and Action: Approval of the Minutes for February 12, 2020.

Chairman Baumgardt asked Board Members if they had any additions, corrections and/or revisions to the minutes.

MOTION:

Motion made by Ms. White, seconded by Ms. Cervantes AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

ABSTAIN: *Ms. Dillabough*

3. Information and Discussion: El Paso Water (EPWater) quarterly financial report on 10% annual drainage utility fee revenue and expenses. **Contact:** Rocio Alvarado, rpalvarado@epwater.org

Rocio Alvarado gave the 4th quarter financial report, December 2019 to February 2020, on 10% drainage utility fee revenue and expenses.

Ysenia Castro played a video regarding a storm event in El Paso on July 10, 2015. She updated Board Members regarding Arroyo 1 and Arroyo 1A located in Northwest El Paso.

Nancy Hayes, CSA Design Group, commented.

Chairman Baumgardt and Board Members White, Dillabough and Cervantes commented and/or asked questions of staff.

- 4. Information and Discussion:** An update on Council action and staff recommendations made at the Council meeting of October 29, 2019 regarding the approximately 1,000 acres of land owned by the City of El Paso in northwest El Paso, including Lost Dog Trail.

Contact: Kevin Smith, smithkw@elpasotexas.gov

Kevin Smith, Assistant Director of Planning, explained at the February 18th City Council meeting Council made the motion to direct staff to take steps to create a conservation easement for the former TIRZ 12, the Lost Dog Trail area. Council did indicate the ballot initiative was previously adhered to by the steps taken by the city in utilizing the 10% Open Space Stormwater funds as well as to dissolve TIRZ 12. Staff will be taking the steps necessary to create the conservation easement.

Ms. White asked Mr. Smith if Staff was currently working on the conservation easement.

Mr. Smith responded yes, the Capital Improvement Department would be working on that. He did not have a timeline of events.

Ms. Dillabough commented if there was anything Board Members could do to help facilitate the process to please let them know.

- 5. Information, Discussion and Action:** Update on the status of the Mountain to River Trail System including stakeholder and public input meetings, trail route options and decisions, and prioritization of efforts to complete the trail. **Contact:** Daniel Lopez, lopezdp@elpasotexas.gov

Daniel Lopez gave a presentation on the status of the Mountain to River Trail System.

Chairman Baumgardt and Board Members Dillabough, White and Cervantes commented and/or asked questions of staff.

Karina Brasgalla responded to comments and questions from the Board.

- 6. Information, Discussion and Action:** Review of the 2007 Open Space Master Plan and options for an update to the plan.

Contact: Karina Brasgalla, brasgallakx@elpasotexas.gov

Jorge Castillo, castillojx1@elpasotexas.gov

Karina Brasgalla explained options for Board Members for updating the Plan.

Chairman Baumgardt and Board Members Dillabough, White and Cervantes commented and/or asked questions of staff.

Harrison Plourde commented on the Board creating a subcommittee that would work hand in hand, between OSAB meetings, with staff or consultant charged with updating the Plan.

Jorge Castillo commented on updating the Plan to include a management plan and provisions for wetlands and wetlands development.

Chairman Baumgardt and Board Members Cervantes and Dillabough would serve on the Master Plan Update Subcommittee.

Chairman Baumgardt requested this agenda item be posted on the April OSAB meeting agenda.

CLOSED 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

7. Adjournment

MOTION:

Motion made by Ms. Cervantes, seconded by Ms. Dillabough AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADJOURN.