



OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, November 8th, 2017, 3:00 P.M.

City 1 Building (City Hall), 300 N Campbell

First Floor, City Council Chambers

Members Present: 6

Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart, Vice-Chairman Bob Geyer, Charles Stapler, Robert Melson, Patricia White, Joanne Gwinn Burt

Members Absent: 2

Don Baumgardt, Alyssa Benavides Cervantes

Vacancy: 1

District 5

Planning & Inspections Department – Planning

Alex Hoffman, Deputy Director;; Jeff Howell, Lead Planner; Nelson Ortiz, Lead Planner; Harrison Plourde, Senior Planner; Karina Brascalla, Planner

Other City Staff Present:

Omar De La Rosa, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office; Jorge Castillo, Open Space, Trails & Parks Coordinator, Parks & Recreation, Patricia Dalbin, El Paso Water; and Jose Carlos Villalva, Real Estate Manager, Economic & International Development

Members of the public:

Judy Ackerman, Franklin Mountains Wilderness Coalition, Dr. Richard Bonart

Establish a Quorum

A quorum of the Open Space Advisory Board was present.

Meeting Called to Order

Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart called the meeting to order at 3:05 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):

Judy Ackerman, Franklin Mountains Wilderness Coalition

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Discussion and Action:** Changes to the Agenda

No changes.

2. **Discussion and Action:** Approval of the Minutes: October 11th, 2017

Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart asked Board Members if they had any additions, corrections and/or revisions to the minutes. No responses from Board Members.



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MOTION:

*Motion made by Vice-Chairman Geyer, seconded by Board Member Melson **AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE.***

3. **Information and Discussion:** Quarterly reports from the Planning Division, Subdivisions Section, regarding land studies and plats approved in the Mountain and Hillside Development Areas. Contact: Nelson Ortiz, ortiznx@elpasotexas.gov

Nelson Ortiz gave a presentation and responded to comments and questions from Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart, Vice-Chairman Geyer and Board Member White.

Alex Hoffman commented and responded to questions from the Board.



ITEM 3 - OSAB
Quarterly Report on



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ITEM 3 -
SUSU17-00051 Villag



ITEM 3 -
SUSU17-00056 Coro



ITEM 3 -
SUSU17-00060 CMC

NO ACTION TAKEN.

4. **Information, Discussion, and Action:** Greenway Projects: Identification, location, design, and progress. Specifically addressing: Locations where utility rights of way within the city that are unsightly scars on the neighborhoods through which they pass.

Contact: Jorge Castillo, castillojx1@elpasotexas.gov

Jorge Castillo gave a presentation on the various projects and corridors.

Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart, Vice-Chairman Geyer and Board Member Melson commented and asked questions of Mr. Castillo.



ITEM 4 - Greenway
Projects.pdf

Judy Ackerman, member of the public, commented.

NO ACTION TAKEN.

5. **Information, Discussion, and Action:** A list of City / PSB properties that have been sold, including transaction dates and prices (per acre), which have been repurchased as Open Space.

Contact: Patricia Dalbin, pdalbin@epwu.org

Patricia Dalbin gave a presentation and responded to questions and comments from Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart and Vice-Chairman Geyer.



ITEM 5 - 170913
OSAB Aquisitions.pr

The following members of the public commented:

1. Judy Ackerman
2. Dr. Rick Bonart, former member of the Public Service Board

NO ACTION TAKEN.

6. **Information, Discussion, and Action:** Update on the purchase of Priority Property #5.
Contact: Jose Carlos Villalva, villalvajc@elpasotexas.gov

Jose Carlos Villalva stated he did not have any new information to present. He explained although he did not have any new information, he continues to work on the matter.

Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart, and Vice-Chairman Geyer commented.

Judy Ackerman, member of the public, commented.

NO ACTION TAKEN.

7. **Information, Discussion, and Action:** Resolution to City Council on the Mountain to River Trail.
Contact: Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart

Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart stated her intent is to present this Resolution to City Council; then read the Resolution into the record. She would like the Board to recommend a timeline to present the resolution to City Council.



ITEM 7 - Resolution
to City Council MNTI

Omar DeLaRosa recommended the following language be inserted after “NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Open Space Advisory Board requests City Council to direct the City Manager to direct staff ...”

Vice-Chairman Geyer suggested including a subject line in the Resolution.

Board Member Melson suggested the Resolution be printed on City letterhead.

MOTION:

Motion made by Mr. Stapler, seconded by Ms. White AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ACCEPT THIS RESOLUTION AS AMENDED.

Alex Hoffman recommended each Board Member meet with their City Council Representative. In the past, Resolutions were sent directly to the Representatives; staff does not meet with the Representatives unless requested by the Representative. Ultimately, a Representative will place the Resolution on the City Council agenda.

Chairman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart explained one concern is revising the Resolution language and provide each Representative a hard copy. She suggested Jeff Howell email the revised Resolution to the Board Members, as she is not permitted to send emails to Board Members individually due to the Open Meetings Act.

Dr. Rick Bonart, member of the public, recommended staff email the Resolution to Board Members, then Board Members could email the Resolution to their respective City Council Representatives. He suggested, as a timeline, 60 days for Board Members to meet with their Representative. Should no action be taken after the 60 days, he suggested Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart bring the Resolution back to Board Members asking for a recommendation and permission to address City Council during the "Call to the Public" as posted on the City Council agendas.

8. **Information, Discussion, and Action:** Report from the Public Service Board (PSB) on the interest lost, possible recoupment, of 10% annual drainage utility fee revenues allocated for Green Projects, as relating to open space. Contact: Patricia Dalbin, pdalbin@epwu.org

Patricia Dalbin explained the dollar amounts were based on a month to month review based on the average return received by the PSB. She responded to comments and questions from Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart and Vice-Chairman Geyer.

Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart explained the Board had concerns about the amount of money lost due to not having an interest-earning account for the 10% utility fee revenues. She asked if the Open Space Advisory Board would ever see those monies.

As an advisory Board, Ms. Dalbin recommended the Board prepare a Resolution recommending that similar funds in the future be placed into an account to enable interest to accrue as a policy by EPWU.

Vice-Chairman Geyer suggested Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart prepare a Resolution to present to the Public Service Board regarding the Board's concerns.



ITEM 8 -
Interest.pdf

NO ACTION TAKEN.

9. **Information, Discussion, and Action:** Can maintaining an Arroyo in its Natural State be a Good Fit for Existing Community When New Service Facilities are Needed for New Development: Who Really Pays for It? Stormwater. Contact: Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart

Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart gave a presentation and explained that she met with Lauren Baldwin, the City's expert in Green Infrastructure-Low Impact Development (GILID). The Chairwoman suggested Ms. Baldwin give a presentation to Board Members regarding GILID and the importance of maintaining arroyos in their natural state.



ITEM 9 - Can
maintaining an Arro

Dr. Rick Bonart commented.

Vice-Chairman Geyer requested Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart email her presentation to Mr. Howell so that he could email the presentation to Board Members.

NO ACTION TAKEN.

- 10. Information, Discussion, and Action:** Update on the status of El Paso Water's (EPW) purchase of the Hunt Arroyos. Contact: Patricia Dalbin, pdalbin@epwu.org

Patricia Dalbin gave a presentation.



ITEM 10 - 170913
OSAB Hunt Property

NO ACTION TAKEN.

- 11. Information, Discussion, and Action:** Recent / Current budget of El Paso Water's (EPW) used for cleaning out and maintaining conventionally built stormwater infrastructure.
Contact: Patricia Dalbin, pdalbin@epwu.org

Patricia Dalbin noted that there is not a current budget for cleaning out and maintaining conventionally built stormwater infrastructure. As an advisory Board, Ms. Dalbin suggested the Board make a recommendation that perhaps in the future monies could be split up in order to explain the cost of maintaining the stormwater infrastructure.

Vice-Chairman Geyer and Board Member Melson commented and asked questions of Ms. Dalbin.

Dr. Rick Bonart and Judy Ackerman commented.

Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Miles-Bonart requested staff place an item on the December OSAB agenda requesting the PSB present the costs for cleaning out and maintaining conventionally built stormwater infrastructure.

Jeff Howell explained the Board could bring up the item again, as presented on today's agenda, on the December agenda if they wanted.

Board Member Melson and Dr. Rick Bonart commented.

NO ACTION TAKEN.

12. Information and Discussion: Quarterly report on pending OSAB motions.

Contact: Jeff Howell, howelljb@elpasotexas.gov

Jeff Howell gave a presentation and responded to comments and questions from Vice-Chairman Geyer.



ITEM 12 - Quarterly
Report of Pending C

The following staff members responded to comments and questions from the Board.

1. Omar DeLaRosa
2. Alex Hoffman

Dr. Rick Bonart, member of the public, noted that he is a City Plan Commissioner and encouraged Board Members to attend a City Plan Commission meeting.

NO ACTION TAKEN.

13. Information, Discussion, and Action: Review and approval of the Open Space Advisory Board (OSAB) 2018 meeting schedule. Contact: Jeff Howell, howelljb@elpasotexas.gov

Jeff Howell presented the 2018 OSAB meeting schedule.



ITEM 13 - Meeting
Schedule 2018-DRAFT

Board Member Melson commented.

MOTION:

*Motion made by Board Member White, seconded by Board Member Melson and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ACCEPT NEXT YEAR'S CALENDAR.***

14. Adjournment

MOTION:

*Motion made by Board Member Melson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Geyer **AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADJOURN.***