

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ABBREVIATED MINUTES
May 8, 2014
4:00 – 6:00 pm

Present:

Deke Tidwell
Rob Erickson
Anna Noson
Ethel MacDonald
Gerhard Knudsen

Jenny Tollfeson
Bert Lindler
Beth Hahn, Park Board Rep
Dan Spencer

Absent:

Matt Barnes
Tim Aldrich
Gabe Millar

Also Present: Elizabeth Erickson, Open Space Manager.

1. Approval of DRAFT minutes of April 10, 2014. Minutes were approved as submitted.
2. Announcements:
Congratulations Beth on baby Fiona
Park Board plans to appoint new OSAC rep at next meeting-Kevin Verlanic
Lindler: Grant Creek Trail update- Bids opened this week on Tuesday
3. Discussion on OSAC roles and strategic planning
Elizabeth gave a power point presentation-Missoula Open Space:
1980-open space bond, 1981-OSAC Formed, 1995-first larger open space bond, city \$5 million, 2006-city/county bond \$10 million
A discussion of the language of the 1995 and 2006 bonds took place.
Elizabeth presented the group with 4 focus questions:
 - a. *What is an accomplishment of OSAC that you are most proud of?*
 - i. Deschamps acquisition by Evaro Hill,
 - ii. Grant Creek Trail
 - iii. Lafray Park, collaboration with the neighborhoods
 - iv. South Hills-Rimel, working ranch & birding
 - v. Progression of OSAC, holistic and opportunistic approaches; the progression place based to concepts/values/conservation planning
 - vi. Mt. Jumbo and Mt. Sentinel; not only aesthetics but ecological with the elk, symbolizes far sightedness
 - vii. Yawley in East Missoula; good connector
 - viii. Tower Street
 - ix. Patience, waiting for the correct time
 - x. open space connecting with bike paths in city.
 - xi. River Road Farm
 - b. *Where would you like to see OSAC/Missoula's Open Space Program in 1 year?*
 - i. Clearly articulated vision, to be proactive, tally of goals/accomplishments and what is lacking.
 - ii. Identify opportunities to spend 1995 bond monies.
 - iii. Plan update to 2006 bond-cost? Staff time?
 - iv. Opportunity to spend on at least one thing on list (Miller Creek, Grass Valley, Deer Creek, 14th and Catlin/USFS, PEAS), continuing Milwaukee Trail past Reserve, but pursue all.
 - v. Create map/graphic showing accomplishments by conservation values and geography

c. *Where would you like to see OSAC/Missoula's open space program in the next 5 years?*

- i. A new bond in place-broad values
- ii. Kim Williams to Bonner
- iii. Tiger Trail completed to Lolo
- iv. Bitterroot Branch gap completed
- v. Milwaukee to Mullen
- vi. North Hills-1000 acres
- vii. Miller Creek/Bitterroot River
- viii. McCauley Butte/Blue Mountain Area-Bridge across
- ix. Focus to West-manage growth, Milwaukee Trail
- x. More agricultural land being protected
- xi. Spend 2006 bond money and spending next bond

d. *What does OSAC/open space program need to get there?*

- i. Plan update
- ii. More focus-specific values

- 4. MacDonald recommended electing a chair and vice chair. She suggested electing Tim Aldrich for chair again. The chair can be in close contact with Elizabeth regarding pursuit of parcels. Elizabeth will talk to Tim to see if he is interested in being chair again. Anyone interested in being vice chair can email Elizabeth.
- 5. Public Comment-none

Meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm.

Submitted by Erin Focher