

Open Space Alliance Council Meeting

December 21, 2005

Meeting called to order by President Tom Pettit at 5 pm.

Present: Tom Pettit, Ed Parry, Ashley Fine, Howard Mechanic, Elisabeth Ruffner, Ron Smith, Jim Lawrence, and Ann-Marie Heins.

Ann-Marie made a presentation regarding a one-to-one grant that is available USGS for Bird habitat conservation. Motion to endorse this grant application. Approved by consensus. Suggestion to work with the city and the Open Space Advisory Committee to do this on the 6th St. property the city just obtained around Granite Creek.

Actions of the Executive Committee:

Earth Day will be dealt with later.

Tom will talk with Sharlot Hall to see if they are willing to continue on the Wildlife Symposium.

Minutes of the November meeting were approved by consensus.

Treasurer's Report: Copy below.

A letter from Eric Smith was read and there was a discussion regarding trying to complete the Greenways. Several landowners do not want to assist with the extension of the trail. Tom will talk with Eric to make sure we get all the information so we can suggest what to do about the Greenways.

Elisabeth will continue working on a letter to go to Council and the Mayor. This will relate to recommendations from OSA regarding staffing for Open Space programs and making the Open Space Advisory Committee a permanent committee, not just a Mayor's committee.

Reports from Jim Lawrence regarding the Open Space Advisory Committee and Mitigation are below.

Regarding the Citizen Empowerment meeting on January 21. Motion to approve Ashley as OSA representative.

Earth Day: Executive Committee suggested retaining someone to coordinate the event

Green and Gold Conference: Motion to approve six scholarships at \$75 each.. Approved.

Applications will be reviewed and approved at our January meeting. Attached is information regarding this.

Announcement: The video if the Wildlife Symposium of September 2005 is shown on Channel 13 at 2PM on Sundays

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Minutes submitted by Howard Mechanic.

OSA

14 December 2005

Treasurer's Report

Unreconciled Balance Forward \$3727.42

Income

Memberships and Related Contributions 130.00

\$3857.42

Expenses

Hassayampa Inn – Gift Cards 100.00

\$3757.42

Correction- error from deposit made on 10-11 less 385.00

Unreconciled Balance –general funds available \$3372.42

Badger P Mountain Fund:

YTD Interest - \$33.97

Balance – \$6910.67

Earth Day Account:

Balance - \$1620.14

Open Space Advisory Committee Report

The meeting was held, December 14, 2005 at 5:30 P.M. at the City Hall Conference Room, 201 S. Cortez

With the status of State Trust lands still held up awaiting the proposed initiative and the loss of the Dalke property it was decided a review of Acquisition Priorities was in order for the new year.

The proposed Council Resolution was discussed. The final version was adopted and a presentation will be scheduled.

Publication on the recent purchase from TPL (Payne) was discussed. The committee will review and provide input for a scheduled Courier article.

Representatives of the Committee will provide preliminary information on a proposed purchase of open space in the vicinity of Granite Dells at an Executive Session of the City Council. (12/20/05)

Jim Lawrence

City of Prescott Mitigation Committee Report

The meeting was held, December 15, 2005 at 10:00 A.M. in Mayer.

In addition to the members from COP, PV, USFS, SRP, Az F&G, ADEQ and the consultants from SWGW, organization representatives included Ken Janecek, Ed Wolfe, Bill Meyer, Jim Lawrence, and Dan Campbell.

For those who are interested, Ken Janecek has posted more detailed notes on this meeting which I can forward.

Bill Wellendorf and Bill Slade of SWGW presented their latest data and recommendations on locations for the monitoring wells.

Bill Wellendorf described the plans that COP has for # 1 in the Chino well field. Well #1 has about 40 ppb arsenic which through well spinners they feel is coming from the lowest part of the well. They are planning to dump cement in the well to seal off the bottom 50 feet in the hope of then getting lower arsenic.

Dan Campbell asked whether Prescott will have the money to do mitigation in the future if they increase rates by 50% the first year and 50% the next year. If Prescott is going to depend on retiring irrigation rights to mitigate, they should do it now rather than waiting till Verde impact is recognized. If Prescott were to retire irrigation in use today they would get some good information on the impact on such retirement, and they would generate some very good political press.

John Munderloh revealed that the tri cities had asked the BOR for a grant of \$600k to study the impact of Prescott sewage plant effluent on the aquifer in the recharge area. That grant had been rejected but a request has been resubmitted for perhaps \$300k with a bigger portion of local matching \$ and John feels it has a chance of acceptance because so little is known about aquifer absorption of trace metals and hormones that are causing fish reproductive problems. The group said Gail Cordy of the USGS in Tucson should be invited to the Mitigation committee to speak about her work with endocrine disrupters in sewage effluent.

The next meeting will be in February and will focus on what the mitigation committee will try to do in '06. I have requested again that the needs for surface water and precipitation monitoring is the area be discussed.

Jim Lawrence