

LOVELAND OPEN LANDS ADVISORY COMMISSION
OCTOBER 13, 2010
PARKS AND RECREATION CONFERENCE ROOM
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Commissioners in Attendance:

Present: Lori Bell, Rick Brent, Kathy Hartman, Andy Hawbaker, John Lewis, Bill Zawacki, Joel Johnston (Alternate).

Absent: Gale Bernhardt, Steve McMillan, Kerri Rollins (Larimer County Liaison), Hugh McKean (Council Liaison).

Staff Present: Brian Hayes, Debbie Eley.

The public meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm.

Approval of the August 11, 2010 Commission Meeting Minutes: Bill Zawacki made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Kathy Hartman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: None present.

Council Liaison Report – Hugh McKean. Not present.

Larimer County Liaison Report – Kerri Rollins. Brian Hayes reported that Kerri had planned to attend but had a family emergency. A joint meeting is planned for the Larimer County Open Lands Advisory Board, Loveland Open Lands Advisory Commission, and Fort Collins Land Conservation and Stewardship Board on Wednesday, November 10 in Fort Collins. Topics would include the sales tax expiration in 2018 and possible cooperation on open lands master plan updates for all three entities. Invited speakers from the Trust for Public Land will discuss conservation finance and visioning.

Discussion/Action:

1. Commission Member Term Expirations. Andy Hawbaker, Lori Bell, and Nancy Meredith's terms expire on December 31. Nancy has already resigned and Joel Johnston will be appointed by City Council on November 2. Members who wish to reapply may do so online. Staff will email the link to the online application. The deadline is November 19.

2. Tax Ballot Issues, November 2010 – OLAC Recommendation. John Lewis, Chair, drafted a letter to indicate OLAC's positions on Propositions 60 and 61 and Amendment 101 on the state ballot. The City's ability to obtain revenue will be severely decreased. **Kathy Hartman made a motion that OLAC opposes Propositions 60 and 61 and Amendment 101. Andy Hawbaker seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.** The Chair will submit a letter/press release to the city's Public Information Officer and the Reporter-Herald.

3. Wild Property Management Plan Update. Staff reviewed the history of the Wild property acquisition, a summary of comments, opportunities and constraints expressed by OLAC during a site visit in June, and a draft management plan process, timeline, and template. Stewardship

plans are written for properties where there is no public access and management plans are developed with public input for sites where public access is envisioned. Commission members suggested adding flexibility to the management plan process, timeline and template relative to the size and proposed use of each property. Language can be added to the process and template to clarify that they will be adjusted on a site-specific basis appropriate to each site. Kathy Hartman believes that the public should be involved in planning the use of an area, and that if public access is desired eventually, we should plan for it now. It should be communicated during the public process that the public has input on the management plan, but does not make decisions. Staff will revise the draft management plan process and template to present at the November meeting. A decision will need to be made whether the Wild Property needs a stewardship or management plan before proceeding.

4. Big Thompson River Property. This 60-acre property north of the east Big Thompson River contains two reclaimed gravel pit ponds and is located near the Koppes, Kauffman and Flying W conservation easements. The lakes total approximately 26 acres and upland areas make up the balance of about 34 acres. The ponds are approximately 8-10 feet deep. The Koppes CE allows for a parking lot and trail and the Kauffman CE allows a trail but not fishing. The Flying W CE does not allow public access. It appears that the subject property is exempt from augmentation, according to mining documentation available online and information from the realtor. Andy Hawbaker asked if the High Plains Foundation fund could be a possible funding source. Brian will follow up with High Plains as negotiations proceed. A site visit was tentatively scheduled for October 28.

Reports and Correspondence:

5. Joint Meeting with Fort Collins and Larimer County Open Lands Boards – November 10. See Larimer County Liaison Report above.

6. Staff Report.

- a. Conservation Easement monitoring is almost complete for 2010, with three properties left to inspect. All properties continue to be maintained in good condition, with a few weed issues.
- b. The Brose property will be signed off by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. Russian olives have been removed and weeds have been controlled. Both will likely need continuing maintenance. The management and maintenance of the property will become the city's responsibility. Discussions with adjacent landowners are ongoing.

Commission Members' Discussion Topics:

1. Rick Brent offered to host the commission's annual holiday party on December 8th.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.