

City of Aurora
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD
AMC, Sand Creek Room
March 26, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Tom Isaacson, Vice Chair Wayne Gallagher, Suzy Cress, Lee Lindholm, Mark Christopher and Victoria Samuel

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Pat Schuler, Manager of Open Space and Natural Resources (OSNR); Eric Watts, Superintendent of OSNR; and Sarah Maier, Administrative Support.

VISITORS PRESENT: None

CALLED TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair Tom Isaacson at 5:30 P.M.

- I. WELCOME: Tom Isaacson welcomed Eric Watts, Susan Bruce, Brad Stratton and the Open Space Board.
 - GUEST SPEAKERS: Eric Watts, Superintendent of OSNR, discussed the updated Weed Management Plan. He explained why noxious weeds are treated in Open Space and that a lot of different factors have to be evaluated to determine when and how the weeds should be managed. Eric explained the different action thresholds that are used to determine when action is warranted and the best management practice which is integrative pest management. Eric showed the updated Weed Management Plan which is laid out by the three different water sheds throughout Aurora; Piney Creek, Tollgate Creek and Sand Creek. Each water shed area is broken down into three groups. List A are noxious weeds that will always be taken care of. List B is split into two categories where the weeds are either contained or eliminated. List C is weeds that can never be fully eliminated. There is also a list of miscellaneous sites that don't fall within the three water sheds and a list for the undeveloped right-of-ways that OSNR maintains. Mark Christopher asked if a weed is classified as noxious if that means that it serves no purpose for wildlife. Eric responded that there is a list on what makes the weed noxious and it usually has to impact at least two of the items to be considered noxious.
- II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Wayne Gallagher motioned to approve the agenda. Suzy Cress seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
 - February Minutes – Lee Lindholm motioned to approve the February minutes. Suzy Cress seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- IV. PROS MANAGEMENT REMARKS:
 - a) Pat Schuler, OSNR Manager –
 - i. **Update on PCC Master Plan:** The Master Plan is moving along. We plan to invite the consultant to one of our Board meetings to discuss their findings. When the Master Plan is completed, it will go to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for approval. The next Public Open House is scheduled for April 13.
 - ii. **Metro Vision Award for Buckley Buffer Project:** The Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) awarded the Buckley Buffer Project the Metro Vision Award.
 - iii. **Board Terms Update:** The group reviewed when each member's term ends.
- V. REPORTS: None
- VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.
- VII. NEW BUSINESS:

a. **Elections for Chair and Vice Chair** –

- i. The election was held for the Chair position. Victoria Samuel was elected as Chair by unanimous vote.
- ii. The election was held for the Vice-Chair position. Suzy Cress was elected as Vice-Chair by unanimous vote.

b. **Interview Three Applicants for Board Positions** –

- i. The reappointment interview for Mark Christopher took place. A vote took place and Mark was reappointed to the Board by unanimous vote.
- ii. The interview of new applicant, Susan Bruce, took place. A vote took place and Susan was appointed to the Board by unanimous vote.
- ii. The interview of new application, Brad Stratton, took place. A vote took place and Brad was appointed to the Board by unanimous vote.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS: None.

IX. ISSUES TO CITY COUNCIL: The group determined this month’s bullet points to be sent to their assigned City Council Member.

X. CHAIR’S REMARKS: None.

XI. GUEST COMMENTS: None

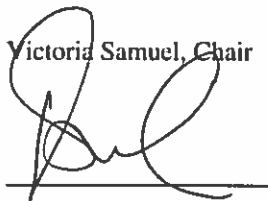
XII. MEMBER COMMENTS & DISCUSSION:

- a) **Wayne Gallagher** – Wayne thanked Tom for his time serving as the Chair for the Board. He also announced the bird walk at the Ponderosa Preserve on April 13 and encouraged members to sign up online if they are interested.
- b) **Victoria Samuel** – Vicki announced that she has begun cleaning the birdhouses along the trail between the Aurora Sports Park and Coal Creek Arena.
- c) **Mark Christopher** – Mark thanked the Board for voting for his re-election. He also mentioned that it would be helpful to have the Board presentation completed soon since there are currently wildlife issues in his neighborhood. Pat mentioned that she can see if some of the Open Space Rangers would be able to present to the public and help with any wildlife questions and concerns that they have.

XIII. ADJOURN: Wayne Gallagher motioned to adjourn. Lee Lindholm seconded the motion. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.

The next meeting will be April 26 at 5:30 pm at the AMC in the Sand Creek Room

Victoria Samuel, Chair



Sarah Maier, Recording Secretary

