

City of Aurora
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD
WebEx Meeting
February 22nd, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vicky Samuel, Suzy Cress, Wayne Gallagher, Brad Stratton, Steve Kennedy, Lee Lindholm, Bob Hunchberger, Tom Isaacson, Mark Christopher.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Green, OSNR Acting Manager; Lauren Morales, Administrative Support.

VISITORS PRESENT: Jason Amaya, OSB candidate.

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Victoria Samuel at 5:34 PM.
- II. WELCOME: Victoria Samuel welcomed everyone to the February meeting and introduced Jason Amaya, who was interviewing for the Open Space Board.
- III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Suzy Cress motioned to adopt the agenda. Steve Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Steve Kennedy motioned to approve the minutes from the January meeting, with an edit. Brad Stratton seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- V. GUEST SPEAKERS: None.
- VI. MANAGEMENT REMARKS:
 - Brian Green led a discussion about changing the meeting date and time. OSB members were agreeable to changing this. The first Wednesday of every month was selected as the new date, with no March meeting. (Note: This was later changed to the third Wednesday of every month, due to a staffing conflict.)
 - Brian Green updated the OSB members on the project with iNaturalist. iNaturalist is a tool that is being used to help with the conservation easement project that the OSB members are helping with. Eric Watts, OSNR Superintendent, has been working to create the individual projects for these, with proper geofencing. There is a limit on how many files can be uploaded per day. The Star K Ranch complex and the Coal Senac natural area projects have been completed and are ready to capture observations. The Buckley Buffer complex and the Triple Creek complex should be ready in the next week and a half. The next step is to create established photo points with a post to mark where observers can take snapshot photos of the area. Over time, these photos will enable staff to better track any changes in the area. Eric has identified a good method for this and is working hard to get this done so monitoring can begin soon.
- VII. REPORTS:
 - Vicky Samuel asked Tom Isaacson if there were any updates on the Art Selection Committee. Tom said he had not yet been contacted. Brian Green added that he had provided Tom's contact information to Roberta Bloom. The process has been slower than expected but Roberta should reach out to Tom shortly.
- VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
 - OSB members reviewed the 2022 Action Plan. Changes were discussed and the 1st draft of the action plan was completed.
- IX. NEW BUSINESS:
 - The OSB members conducted interviews for 2022 openings of the OSB. Jason Amaya was interviewed as a new candidate and Brad Stratton and Mark Christopher were interviewed as returning candidates. The board members unanimously voted to approve all three individuals for recommendation to City Council.

- X. ISSUES TO CITY COUNCIL: Determine bullet points for February.
- A decision was made to move the standing Open Space Board meeting date. The board will now meet the third Wednesday of every month, with the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 20th at 5:30pm.
 - Revisions were made to the 2022 OSB Action Plan with plans to finalize at the next meeting.
 - Interviews were held for appointments to the OSB. Three names have been sent forward to City Council with recommendation to appoint.
- XI. CHAIR REMARKS: Vicky Samuel thanked Brian and OSNR staff for their work on some issues at Coal Creek.
- XII. MEMBER COMMENTS & DISCUSSION:
- Bob Hunchberger noticed a lot of trees along the south portion of the Aurora Reservoir that had been downed by beavers. He asked if there was a mitigation plan for this to protect some of the trees. Brian answered that part of it is just deciding which trees to wrap to try to protect. If too many trees get wrapped, the beaver will likely continue around the reservoir. For now, the beaver is mostly staying in one area. Over time, new shoots will sprout and the beaver will be drawn to those instead.
 - Tom Isaacson was at Pronghorn a week ago and noticed a new fence that blocks part of a trail there. Brian answered that the fence was not supposed to be installed there and has already been removed. There will likely be a detour of the trail at some point in the next few months as the trail is re-routed.
 - Wayne Gallagher asked if the windmill will be left at Pronghorn. Brian said there are no plans to remove it. Wayne noted the blades looked like they might be deteriorating. Brian said staff would take a look at it.
 - The OSB members all thanked Lee Lindholm for his time and work on the Open Space Board over the years. They also congratulated Mark and Brad on the recommendations for reappointment and warmly welcomed Jason Amaya as a new recommended member of the board.
- XIII. ADJOURN: Suzy Cress motioned to adjourn the January meeting. Bob Hunchberger seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM.

The next meeting will be on April 20th at 5:30 P.M. via WebEx.

Victoria Samuel

Victoria Samuel, Chair

Lauren R. Morales

Lauren Morales, Recording Secretary