

City of Aurora
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD
VIRTUAL MEETING (WebEx)
January 18th, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Kennedy, Vicky Samuel, Wayne Gallagher, Bob Hunchberger, Brad Stratton, Tom Isaacson, Jason Amaya, Suzy Cress.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Christopher.

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Green, Acting OSNR Division Manager; Joy Thompson, Natural Resources Supervisor; Lauren Morales, Management Assistant.

VISITORS PRESENT: Dennis Roy.

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Steve Kennedy called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.
- II. WELCOME: Steve Kennedy welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced guest Dennis Roy.
- III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Wayne Gallagher moved to approve the agenda. Tom Isaacson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Bob Hunchberger moved to approve the minutes from the November OSB meeting. Brad Stratton seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- V. GUEST SPEAKERS: Steve asked the board members to introduce themselves. Everyone introduced themselves and shared a little about their time on the board.
- VI. MANAGEMENT REMARKS: Brian Green thanked everyone for attending the meeting and shared updates on some of the projects that are going on in 2023. The City Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Department is undergoing a Master Plan process. Two open houses will be offered in February, on 2/9 from 4:00pm-7:00pm at Southeast Recreation Center and on 2/10 from 2:00pm-5:00pm at Expo Recreation Center. Public feedback is very welcome. PROS is also wrapping up its department organizational study.
- VII. REPORTS: Brian Green and Steve Kennedy reminded board members about easement monitoring for Q1 of 2023. The board members agreed to go out to their assigned properties at least one per quarter for easement monitoring to assist staff. Q1 will run through the end of March.
- VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Steve Kennedy presented the final draft outreach presentation to the board members. Feedback was very positive and all agreed that the presentation will be very helpful in assisting with public outreach. Wayne Gallagher commented that he has been waiting a long time to see this project be completed and that he is very pleased with how it has turned out. The outreach presentation can be shared at Ward meetings, HOA meetings, and for outreach attempts with various groups of the general public. The hope is that the presentation will better inform citizens of all that the city of Aurora has to offer in terms of open space and open the door to people who may wish to become more involved, either in visiting sites or serving as a volunteer.
- IX. NEW BUSINESS: Steve Kennedy reminded the board members that the 2023 action plan will need to

be reviewed and approved in the coming months. He suggested that the board members could all take some time to review the 2022 action plan and offer feedback on potential edits. Board members discussed what potential changes could be made. Many items are included every year, whether or not the board was actively working on any projects for the items or not. It was suggested that the action plan could be tailored to reflect a more targeted picture of specific 2023 goals and active projects. The board members agreed that the action plan does not need to list every goal, both past and present. However, it was also pointed out that the action plan could still list activities that the board members could choose to do, such as attending county level meetings. Board members agreed to review the 2022 action plan and make suggestions for edits via email to begin the approval process. Steve also suggested the OSB bylaws should be reviewed to make sure they are still relevant, as they have not been ratified in some years. Board members agreed to review the bylaws as well. The board also discussed recruitment for the upcoming openings on the OSB in April 2023. Lauren Morales shared a status update on this item. Two new applicants have submitted their information and will be invited to the interviews in February. The board will interview all applicants at the February 15th meeting at Morrison Nature Center. Recommendations will be sent to Council in March, and new members will begin serving in April.

X. BULLET POINTS:

- OSB members reviewed the finalized Outreach Education Presentation.
- Interviews for upcoming OSB vacancies will be held on Wednesday, February 15th at Morrison Nature Center and recommendations will be forwarded to Council Members in March.
- OSB members are beginning work on the 2023 Action Plan and reviewing the OSB bylaws.

XI. CHAIR REMARKS: Steve mentioned that a lot of great work was done in 2022, and that the final draft of the Outreach Education Program is something to be very proud of. The presentation will be a fantastic tool for board members in 2023 and going forward.

XII. Meeting recording was corrupted prior to member remarks so they were unable to be recorded.

XIII. ADJOURN: Board members moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.

The next meeting will be on February 15th at 5:30PM at Morrison Nature Center.

Steven L. Kennedy

Steve Kennedy, Chair

Lauren R Morales

Lauren Morales, Recording Secretary