

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF LAFAYETTE, COLORADO

Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting
Feb. 2, 2023

I. OPENING OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

Call to Order

The Feb. 2, 2023 meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:04 pm.

Roll Call

Those in attendance were: Lynn Riedel, Josh Kuhn, Luke Arrington, Tim Shafer, Grant Swift, Joe Smith, Rob Burdine, Lexie Sierra-Martinez, JD Mangat, Gretchen, Claudia, Sarah and Jerry from Biohabitats.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Luke to approve the minutes from the Jan 5th meeting. Josh seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

Karen Norback - TEBO property, wetland and wl on property. 144 comments, read developer's plan narrative...not considering leaving wetlands as is...converting it to stormwater drainage.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Lafayette Wildlife Plan Update

1. Review of visions - Biohabitats staff reviewed visions from LOSAC, Comp Plan and PROS plan, asking where Lafayette is heading.

2. Public engagement - 575 responses (!!!) to online survey, with 60 people attending Trivia Night. Earth Day is 1st community mtg. Shared the citizen survey results.

Comments from LOSAC - adapting management over time to follow best practices based on current research, paired with monitoring. PROS plan fell short with regards to wildlife, corridors, and buffers as they are not translatable into code. In general, we lack code qualifiers. Our education outreach needs to differentiate between open space and undeveloped private land - signage helps. Additionally, education for youth concerns, as survey is missing a bit on the youth perspective.

3. Initial mapping - General analysis currently - green space, open space, parks. Analysis isn't broken down per open space quality yet. What's left? Looking at potential purchases around the whole city - not much on our wish list in SW or NE. Habitat quality regionally - SE has the highest quality of land regionally. No comments from LOSAC.

4. Prelim. Assessment Approach - general level of mapping of an area - showing permeability of land (possible movement of wildlife), restoration potential of old agricultural land. Open land map around developments may not be open space. City should work with developers on possible easements? No comments from LOSAC.

5. Next steps - What do we want data to support? Intro to field survey planning: what species to investigate and choose locations, (which part will field assessments most support?) characterization of those ecotypes. Establish a baseline inventory, and movement activity of focal species presence. On Earth Day (Apr 29) will share general outline of project.

Comments from LOSAC - 1) With the wildlife survey, identify species of special concern, and keep common species common. Identifying nonnative species (eg. bullfrog, mud snail), and potential conflicts with these. 2) Where can we improve biodiversity? Recognize features from wildlife's perspective - Eighty percent of biodiversity is dependent on wetland and riparian areas, so focusing there is most beneficial. Looking at ecological processes and functions - assessing ecological functions of habitats. 3) It is not necessary to inventory areas we've already surveyed. Be sure to use other surveys already done to augment what Biohabitats does. 4) Citizen's survey indicated importance of buffers from other communities, neighborhoods, developments. Consider current and future IGAs. 5) Can we characterize open space parcels based on how impacted they are or can be? This would help prioritize purchases

B. Open Space Goals and Objectives 2023

Rob went over the 2023 goals for Staff and LOSAC. Add "Participate in development reviews." #4. Update code

C. Open Space Annual Report Presentation

It is online. I'm not going to summarize this. Go online to check all of the AMAZING open space accomplishments this past year. We are so proud of our staff!
<https://www.lafayetteco.gov/DocumentCenter/View/35522/Open-Space-Annual-Report-2022->

V. STAFF REPORT

Willoughby Corner - Public Works has concerns with the project, so changes will be coming.

VI. MEMBER UPDATES

East Boulder Creek County plan - (287 east) preliminary survey online.
Nine Mile pillars - 3 options: NW corner of 287 & Arapahoe; Gateway to Legion Park in Boulder; Along Arapahoe by Legion Park
JD - City annexed Waneka land just east of Burlington trail, and north of Emma.
We're interested in the hydrological impact on Powers' Marsh from the development to its north.

Next Meeting Topics

OTAK and MHFCD presentation

VII. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Luke to adjourn. Tim seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

ATTEST


Rob Burdine, Staff Liaison

CITY OF LAFAYETTE, COLORADO


Lafayette Open Space Advisory Committee
Dave Belin, Chair

(for
Dave
Belin in
his
absence)