

**MINUTES
CITY OF FORT COLLINS
LAND CONSERVATION & STEWRDSHIP BOARD**

**Regular Meeting
Executive Session
Wednesday, May 11, 2016
1745 Hoffman Mill Road
6:00 p.m.**

Council Liaison:
Gerry Horak 420-7398

For Reference:

Kent Leier, Chair	631-2361
Marcia Mallory-Patton, VC	222-0513
Trudy Haines, Communications	225-2760
Mark Sears, Staff Liaison	416-2096

Board Members Present: David Tweedale, Edward Reifsnnyder, Vicky McLane, Joseph Piesman, Kent Leier, Kelly Ohlson, Marcia Patton-Mallory, Raymond Watts, Trudy Haines

NAD Staff: Mark Sears, John Stokes, Rick Bachand, Rachel Steeves, Zoe Shark

Public Attendees: Dave Kahl, Kenny Bearden

Call meeting to order: 6:00 pm

Introductions: Dave and Kenny introduced themselves representing Overland Mountain Bike Club

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes:

David Tweedale made a motion to approve the April LCSB Meeting Minutes.

Trudy Haines seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved.

NA Updates and Announcements

Mark Sears, Natural Areas Manager provided updates on land conservation activities, highlighted the department's activities over the past month and made several announcements. Included of those activities were NAD's partnering with the County on three acquisitions in addition to Sanem in the foothills near Horsetooth Reservoir. The acquisitions include conservation easements and fee purchase on about 2,700 acres. Due diligence is underway and purchase and sale agreements are being reviewed. An onsite field trip with GOCO staff and the grant application has been completed.

A verbal agreement has been reached on the price for the Wellington Community Separator and the process is moving forward on the conservation easement.

The verbal agreement reached six months ago has moved into the purchase agreement phase for the Fort Collins-Loveland Separator parcel.

Executive Session

Marcia Mallory-Patton made a motion under Section 2-712(b), and 2-31(a)(3) of the City Code, that the Land Conservation and Stewardship Board go into executive session to discuss real property acquisitions.

Raymond Watts seconded the motion.

The Motion was unanimously approved

Attendees of Executive Session

David Tweedale, Edward Reifsnyder, Vicky McLane, Joseph Piesman, Kent Leier, Kelly Ohlson, Marcia Patton-Mallory, Raymond Watts, Trudy Haines, John Stokes, Mark Sears and Mary Boyts.

Marcia Mallory-Patton made a motion under Section 2-712(b), and 2-31(a)(3) of the City Code, that the Land Conservation and Stewardship Board go to adjourn the executive session.

Vicky McLane seconded the motion.

The Motion was unanimously approved

Bobcat Ridge Management Plan – Kick Off

Rachel Steeves, Environmental Planner gave a very brief overview of the Bobcat Ridge Management Plan update process. She noted anticipated issues that might arise during Open House/public comments: parking, hunting, and increased recreation pressure. There was discussion about the focus of the plan/issues and the need to adhere to Master Plan and ballot language—conservation, restoration and then recreation. Rachel offered to make an additional presentation before the Board after a final draft has been completed. The Plan will have three phases. Phase I will include input from stakeholders, interested groups and other parties involved in the process. Phase II will include the Open House and outreach to the general public for input and Phase III will be the final draft of the Plan.

The Board would like to see what Rachel will present at the Open House and have the opportunity to give feedback for the process.

Resource Management Update –

Rick Bachand, Environmental Program Manager described a few major highlights of the work Resource Management is doing. Specifically that over 1,700 acres are currently under restoration. A majority of those acres are on the south side of town and along the river. The goal is to have all grasslands on the south side under restoration by 2019. Rick described how the restoration acres graduate into ongoing maintenance mode at some point after 75% of the vegetation on the site becomes ecologically stable.

Education, Outreach and Volunteer Coordination Update -

Zoe Shark, Community Relations Manager made a presentation regarding the Education and Outreach Program's goals, projects and description of the Program. Including in the goal is to reach 8-10% of the community each year while matching the demographics of the community. Benchmarking against other Open Space agencies is something that they do as well. The Program reached 18,000 people last year, surpassing their 10% goal. Educational activities like field trips for people of all ages, Tracks and Trails activities and other opportunities for outreach are reviewed every year. All activities are free to the public while offering programs to a diverse group of toddlers, families and elderly. Zoe explained how volunteers play an important role in reaching the Program's goals.

Social media accounts are something new in moving forward information to the general public on trails that are open and closed. Public engagement is also a part of the Program's work as well as partnerships in projects.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

Approved:

 _____, Chair 6/8/16 Date

Michele Vattano _____, Secretary