

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

**Regular Meeting
October 5, 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: Kent Leier, Kelly Ohlson, Raymond Watts, Marcia Patton-Mallory, Trudy Haines, David Tweedale, Vicky McLane, Edward Reifsnyder

Excused: Joe Piesman

NAD Staff: Tawnya Ernst, Mark Sears, John Stokes, Rich Bachand

Public Attendees: Poudre High School Students (5) and Dale Ademy

Call meeting to order: 5:30 p.m.

Agenda Review: Trudy would like to add Running Deer to the agenda at the end of the meeting. She also requested a 5 minute LSB calendar review at the end of the meeting.

Introductions: Dale Ademy, general public

Public Comments: Marcia asked the guests to introduce themselves. All students from Poudre High School were in attendance to fulfill their requirement to participate in a civic engagement event. Students explained they needed to attend a City Council meeting or anything that involves government for their Government class.

Approval of Minutes:

David Tweedale made a motion to approve the September 4, 2016 LCSB meeting minutes.

Marcia Mallory-Patton seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved.

LCSB Team Values

Trudy Haines, LCSB Communications Liaison led the discussion of Team Values to improve the effectiveness of the Board.

Trudy felt it might be a little difficult for board members to discuss their ideas for team values with non-board members in the room. Marcia pointed out that this type of discussion would not be exempt from a regular, open to the public meeting, and that the board should continue with the agenda item.

Trudy recommended pulling the list out once a year to validate the items on the list or agree to change and/or update the list annually. Trudy invited Mark and John both to chime in on the list and feel comfortable in providing input. She asked board members to come up with an item for the list and then discuss why they think that's important.

Board members agreed on the following rules for the Team Values.

- Show respect for another's viewpoint
- Put effort into learning about everyone's views (ask clarifying questions) and the background of an issue
- Address issues directly with another board member first (then go see chair if necessary)
- Challenge the status quo
- Keep track of time, use time efficiently (process checks), avoid redundancy
- Don't be afraid to make a motion....early
- It's okay to delegate facilitation
- Prepare ideas/thoughts/proposals in writing to share with the board
- Review materials in advance of the meeting
- If a member of the board does not share the majority view of the board, that board members is free to represent his/her personal views to Council as a private citizen
- Think strategically, long term impacts
- We own making our own voice heard
- Help others in making their voice heard
- Be sensitive to different styles of communication (introverts – extroverts)
- Minimize side conversations
- Tough on issues, respect the person
- Embrace debate, share opposing views/ideas
- Carefully prepare agenda in advance in coordination with staff; develop a 6 to 12 month planning calendar
- Provide background materials as far in advance as reasonably possible
- Keep staff presentations brief and to the point

- Minimize interruptions of staff presentations

It was decided to not go into Executive Session for the land conservation strategies and the board agreed to discuss overall land conservation opportunities versus specific land acquisitions and purchases.

Land Conservation Strategies

John Stokes, NAD Director gave a presentation to the board outlining land conservation budget for the next 5 years. He wanted to board to know where we are spending money in addition to land conservation as well. John summarized the overall ballot language, the budget for land conservation, how the money is categorized and spent with respect to city revenues and county revenues. The City Sales Tax requires an 80/20 split, meaning 80% or more of the revenues go to land conservation and or restoration including staffing to support areas. The other 20% or less is for operations and maintenance. The County Sales Tax, on the other hand doesn't have a requirement. Those revenues are used in support of NAD Master Plan and anything that requires, so it's not category specific. John used the charts in the presentation to describe where funds will be spent and how much for each category. City Council has asked the department to further discuss the split between land conservation and restoration in January. More information will come back to the board in detail, looking back in time and looking forward in projections, in December or January. John just wanted to give a snap shot of budgeted resources.

NAD has conserved over 42,000 acres. We own and manage 36,000 acres of fee ground and have 6,000 acres in conservation easements. Twenty five thousand acres are regional properties, Soapstone Prairie and Bobcat Natural Area, and the rest is in and around town. John presented a comparison of lands we had ten years ago and land that we currently own, as well as land we hope to conserve over the next five years.

Discussion: Many board members agreed that it was important to be more aggressive when it comes to land acquisitions. Board members felt that not enough staff resources are being put into land acquisitions. They felt that additional staff might be required to work with Mark and Tawnya. John explained it's not just about acquiring land, but that it takes time to form relationships with property owners. Some land deals take years and years to initiate, negotiate and finalize. This process is very, very time consuming. Mark announced that Real Estate Services hired Dan Gulley to assist Tawnya in Natural Areas land conservation efforts. Dan will be working approximately ½ time for Natural Areas and more if needed. The Board discussed that freeing more of Mark's time for land acquisition was needed.

The board discussed a variety of strategies that could be used to increase land conservation efforts including the following: Partnerships with Larimer County, Loveland, Colorado Open Lands, other City Departments and private land owners; Grants; Development Regulations; Nature in the City; more staff devoted to land conservation.

Running Deer /Hageman Property

Trudy feels that the board members and staff should come together to find some terms that we can agree on with regards to the sale or lease of the property. November 9th staff is hoping to bring back the transaction, following up on some things Council wanted us to follow up with, and trying to address some of the boards concerns. At that point the board can review again. In December it goes back to City Council for final discussion.

Kent recommended board members put any suggestions or comments to NAD staff prior to the November board meeting to include language that we all agree on in the purchase agreement.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Approved:

 , Vice Chair 11/9/16 Date

Muhelle Vattano , Secretary