

MINUTES

CITY OF FORT COLLINS • BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS



Land Conservation & Stewardship Board

Regular Meeting

May 8, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER

5:30 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:** Joe Piesman, Andrea Elson, David Tweedale, Raymond Watts, Kelly Ohlson, Mike Weber,

3. **ATTENDEES:** Councilman Ross Cunniff

4. **Excused:** Vicky McLane, Edward Reifsnyder

NAD Staff: Mark Sears, John Stokes, Dave Myers, Heidi Wagner

5. AGENDA REVIEW

6. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mike Weber made a motion to approve the April LCSB Minutes.

Andrea Elson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 7-0

8. COMMUNICATION AND BOARD MATTERS

9. NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION ITEM

Impact and Decision Framework

Heidi Wagner

John introduced Heidi Wagner, as the new Senior Environmental Planner. Her background includes environmental planning in land use, building design and construction and general planning. With the increase in visitor use in our natural areas, John asked Heidi to address the challenges with not only growth and visitor use but opportunities for improvement when developing our Master Plans. With increasing visitor use and future growth needs NAD needed to formulate a plan to address the trends. John explained how Jeffco, the City of Boulder and Boulder County are experiencing increased visitor use well beyond what we are seeing here in Fort Collins. John feels NAD needs to set in motion plans to prepare for the same.

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Heidi described the growth potential and expectations for the City of Fort Collins. Everyone wants more access and opportunities in natural areas. With the increase in demand for recreation the difficult task of maintaining conservation while servicing a growing need for recreation NAD needed to adopt a plan to assist in those efforts. Heidi introduced the Impact Decision Framework (IDF). The IDF, she explained, was originally created by the Interagency Visitor Use Management Council consisting of 6 federal agencies, in an effort to manage visitor use in our lands. After many meetings with staff and several discussions, the IDF was adopted as a tool that NAD would use for decision making when it comes to our natural areas in terms of things like trails, restoration, recreation and conservation. Heidi explained an internal committee came together to reflect on the framework and began adjusting the categories and questions relevant to NAD. Heidi mentioned the IDF has been sampled already with a handful of NAD scenarios.

Board members agreed the IDF was an appropriate tool for transparency and decision making for the Department. Ray suggested adding one more question to the framework to address environmental metrics to assist in future ecological analysis.

The History of Land Conservation

Mark Sears

Dave Myers distributed spreadsheets with land conservation data from 1992 to current. The three major classifications of land purchases are local, community separators and regional. The spreadsheets describe funds spent for each of those classifications over the years.

Board members reviewed the spreadsheets and had an opportunity to ask questions and make comments.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss Real Estate Matters related to land conservation. The Board completed Executive Session and returned to the regular meeting at 8:29 p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned regular meeting at 8:30.

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