

The Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting

600 Cregg Ln., Missoula, MT 59801

May 11, 2017

4:00-6:00 pm

Review Montana Retriever Club, Lower Miller Creek, Missoula

Committee Members Present: Rob Erickson, Alexis Gibson, Gerhard Knudsen, Bert Lindler, Anna Noson, John Smith, Daniel Spencer; Janet Krivacek.

Absent: Eric Anderson, Deke Tidwell, Kevin Verlanic, Regan Whitworth

Others Present: Elizabeth Erickson, Open Space Acquisitions Attorney; Paula Fisher, Admin.

Visitor: Five Valleys Land Trust - Sarah Richey

Minutes

Public/Guest comments on items not on the agenda – none

Action Item:

Approve minutes from April 13, 2017 – Anna moved to approve the minutes, Rob seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote on whether to recommend Western Montana Retriever Club open space bond proposal.

Motion: *The committee recommends the City Council approve the expenditure of up to \$12,000 of 2006 open space bond funds to cover transaction and project related costs associated with the donation of a conservation easement on the Western Montana Retriever Club property adjacent to the Bitterroot River in Miller Creek, to expand the existing easement from 7 to 50 acres.*

Janet Krivacek moved, Dan Spencer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Western Montana Retriever Club proposal

City Open Space Bond - \$12,000.00 to cover transaction and project-related costs for the donation of the expanded conservation easement from 7 to 50 acres.

Existing 7 acre easement that was held by Missoula County and is now held by Five Valleys Land Trust.

Missoula County asked Five Valley's to adopt 7 acre easement.

Five Valleys worked with the Retriever Club and determined the easement benefits: open space and scenic landscape, protection of riparian land along the Bitterroot River, protection of wetlands, protection of wildlife and other habitat including rare plants, scenic views for floaters on Bitterroot River.

The Bitterroot River is an open space cornerstone according to the City's 2006 Open Space Plan.

The easement will unify the existing parcels so they may not be transferred separately and remain a united 50 acre parcel.

Any money for an approved project that is not expended goes back into the Open Space Bond account for future projects

Meeting Adjourned 6:00pm

Submitted by:

Paula Fisher, Admin.