

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ABBREVIATED MINUTES
September 13th, 2012
4:30 – 5:30 pm

Present:	Jed Little	Matt Barnes	Absent:
	Ethel MacDonald	Mary Manning	Adam Liljeblad
	Bert Lindler	Gabe Millar	Tim Aldrich
	Jeff Stevens	Gary Knudsen	Jenny Tollefson
			Beth Hahn, Park Brd Rep

Also Present: Jackie Corday, Open Space Program Mgr & Jim Habeck

Final Evaluation of National Wildlife Federation Property Along Grant Creek Trail

Since the OSAC August fieldtrip out to the property, one significant change occurred in regards to how the property will be managed - the former owners of the NWF property want FVLT to hold a conservation easement on the property to prohibit any use of the property other than for wildlife and birds. FVLT has agreed to hold the easement and had recently sent Jackie a draft. Jackie was still in the process of reviewing it, but let members know that even though the City will own the property, there will be no public access. The property must be managed only for its wildlife and bird habitat values. The bike/ped trail will be located along the very eastern edge of the property and will be excluded from the legal description of the easement.

Like the Boehmler conservation easement project, FVLT will be charging \$13,000 for their services (\$10,000 for the Land Stewardship fee, and \$3,000 in legal and closing costs). Members will need to evaluate adding those costs to the \$40,000 purchase price, thus Jackie said the project evaluation for today is expending **up to \$54,000** (~\$1,000 in closing costs for the purchase).

Jim Habeck expressed his concern about the trails impact to the land - there are areas where trees will be removed and some fill needed to cross a small draw. He wondered if it was a reasonable expectation of the residents of Grant Creek to have such a trail built in this area of town. Bert pointed out that the trail has been part of the PUD vision for the whole Grant Creek Valley that was previously all one big ranch called the Grant Creek Ranch.

Members discussed the issues some more and then performed the final evaluation. Members unanimously scored the project high enough to recommend approval to the City Council.

Jackie then informed members about the need to visit the Garden City Harvest River Road Farm as that will likely become a project in the near future. It was decided that September 28th at noon fit almost everyones' schedule.

Most members then attended the Annual Volunteer Ice Cream Social in Caras Park.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm with the next meeting date scheduled for 4:00–6:00pm on August 9th at Currents.