



Record of Decisions

Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan
Citizens Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting
September 22, 2015 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Waller Creek Center, Room 104
625 East 10th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

Present

Peter Torgrimson, Chair
Forrest Arnold
Sherri Kuhl, BCCP Secretary
John Gosdin
Tom Hegemier
Annie Kellough

Richard DePalma
Mary Ann Neely
Kent Browning

2 Vacant

Excused

Ken Beck
David Whatley, Vice Chair

After call to order, Chair Torgrimson introduced Kent Browning as the new member appointed by Travis County, and Richard DePalma from the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Board. All the members introduced themselves, and Sherri Kuhl described the process in place to confirm the City of Austin Boards and Commission Members by the Austin City Council.

1. Citizens Communication

None

2. BCP Partner Reports

- a. **City of Austin BCP** – Lisa O'Donnell reviewed the City's written report with the committee and the BCP Partners Education and Outreach Report.
- b. **Travis County BCP** - Melinda Mallia and Linda Laack reviewed the Travis County written report with the committee.
- c. **LCRA BCP** - Erik Huebner reviewed the LCRA written report with the committee.
- d. **Other BCP Partners** – Forrest Arnold gave an update on the Violet Crown Trail for the City of Sunset Valley.

3. New Business

- a. **Members' issues and concerns** – Members requested that we do a briefing for new members on the BCCP. Sherri Kuhl said that BCP staff will work on this in the new year. There was discussion about the time allotted for speakers, the meeting location, and meeting member attendance. A question was raised about whether these meetings were subject to the Open Meetings Act and the Public Information Act. Sherri confirmed that they are not subject to the Open Meetings Act. The agenda and meeting information are posted as a courtesy to the public. Kuhl agreed to look into the issue of whether communications between members are subject to the Public Information Act and to report back.

4. Old Business

- a. **Approve the Record of Decision from 7/28/15** - Motion to approve from Gosdin, Second Hegemier, Carried 5/0, with the new members from the City Boards and Commissions abstaining from voting until they are approved by City Council.
- b. **CAC action regarding positive press coverage from 10/22/14** - Kuhl noted that staff is working with PIO and others to advance this recommendation. Distributing a large BCCP article to the Community Impact papers and/or Four Points News will be timed with the 20th Anniversary in May 2016.
- c. **Funding concerns for rural and small community fire departments adjacent to BCP** - Mallia reported on the July 30, 2015 meeting of the task group formed from the Austin Travis County Joint Wildfire Coalition.
- d. **Update on BCCP Karst Substitution Process planning and take action as appropriate** - Kuhl advised members that the Cave Substitution Policy was approved by the Coordinating Committee during their August 21, 2015 meeting.
- e. **CAC vacant positions and expected changes from City Boards and Commission changes** - Kuhl advised members that two consensus positions are vacant and she will be convening the Advisory Committee Task Group soon to develop recommendations for the two CAC consensus positions.
- f. **CAC Annual Work Plan** - John Gosdin recommended that work be focused on the State of the BCP report this year and to remove the other two items from the CAC Annual Work Plan. Peter Torgrimson reported on the purpose of the subcommittees and in discussion it was agreed to focus on the State of the BCP report and form a subcommittee with the SAC and staff to work on it, with a completion date of May 2, 2016.
 - i. Report from subcommittees:
 - Wildfire and fire support.
 - Invasive species in landscaping.
 - State of BCP report (joint with SAC).