

**MEETING OF OSAC
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Notes
July 8, 2015, 6:30 PM, Town Hall**

In Attendance: Fiona Boger, Patricia Dunham (Chair), Ken Lish (Vice Chair), Matt Morris, Shawn Samuelson. Absent: Jim Heidell, Mike Gheleta, Jill Kenney, Tracy Koller (excused)

Others in Attendance:

Trustee Liaison: Sandy Pennington

Staff Liaison: Allison James

1. Meeting Called to Order (6:30 p.m.)
2. **Review and Discussion** – Work Plan Items. The group reviewed the OSAC Work Plan and discussed the following Work Plan items:
 - A. 5-Year Trails Plan. The group recommends the 5-Year Trails Plan should be organized by an overall ranking and not according to year.
 - B. Working collaboratively with PROSTAC. OSAC recommends that the leadership members of the two committees should meet, if possible, on Monday, July 13, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss cross-over items such as the 5-Year Trails Plan, Boulder County Recommendations and Hodgson-Harris Reservoir.
 - C. Boulder County Open Space and Trails Recommendation. OSAC recommends that the recommendation to Boulder County be the same as last year. The group hopes to meet with PROSTAC for discussion on this item.
 - D. Hodgson-Harris Reservoir. The Committee discussed visiting the site in preparation for a grand opening celebration with Boulder County. Staff will work on logistics. The group hopes to meet with PROSTAC for discussion on this item.
 - E. Regional Collaboration. The Committee discussed the 2015 joint meeting with Louisville's Open Space Committee and possibly making an effort in 2016 to include other area open space committees in collaborative meetings.
3. **Recommendation.** Coal Creek Corridor. The Committee unanimously recommends the following creek corridor recommendations to the Board with the changes made during the meeting:
 - A. Above all, the design should be based on the preservation and sanctity of the creek corridor. We have observed that the northeast corner of the current field design encroaches on the creek corridor. We encourage the Town Board to ensure that the creek corridor is protected.
 - B. The preservation of the creek corridor for the conservation of the natural habitat and for the enjoyment of Town residents is of major importance. The creek corridor should remain in a natural state where possible, while still remaining aesthetically pleasing. We recommend that trails be developed on both sides of the creek corridor to effectively safeguard its boundaries, which would still allow the residents to walk along the pathway and fully enjoy the creek.
 - C. Likewise, the riparian corridor should be protected with a buffer zone that is well-delineated. Per the biological impact study, we recommend a suitable separation of hardy plantings and appropriate natural barriers, such as boulders, to create a buffer to help

withstand future flood erosion, foot traffic, and sports impacts. Particular attention should be paid to any harmful impact on the Preble mouse, which has been added to the endangered list of threatened species.

- D. Artificial turf is fundamentally incompatible with the natural resource values of the creek corridor. We recommend that the Town utilize grass turf on the fields to protect the creek and its waterway from synthetic contaminants.
 - E. To further minimize any possible unfavorable environmental effects on the creek corridor, the Town should minimize negative impacts from lighting, parking, and traffic flow (pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicles). We recommend that a final plan consider and minimize detrimental impacts of lighting (particularly on nocturnal wildlife activities), parking, and traffic flow.
4. **Updates and Lookahead:**
- A. Jeff and Paige Concert recap. Approximately 250 participants attended the very successful concert.
 - B. July 4 Event recap. The event was a large success. The group discussed participating in Chili Fest as a committee or with other committees and other events. The Committee also discussed possibly conducting community engagement for trails during Chili Fest in September.
5. **Adjourn** (8:50 p.m.)

Next Meeting:

*Next Regular Meeting – Wednesday, August 12, 2015, 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall
(OSAC meets on the second Wednesday of the month.)*