

Minutes of Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting
March 7, 2018
6:00pm
Midway City Offices

- I. Attendance
 - a. Committee Members Present
 - i. Courtland Nelson, Chair
 - ii. Natalie Streeter, Vice Chair
 - iii. Kevin Stickleman
 - iv. Paul Tew
 - v. David Carson
 - vi. Jim Bryan
 - vii. Woody Woodruff
 - b. Committee Members Excused
 - i. Randy Gurule
 - c. Staff Present
 - i. Mayor Johnson
 - ii. Michael Henke, Midway City Planner
 - d. Guest Presenters
 - i. Wendy Fisher and Amanda Peterson (Utah Open Lands)
 - e. Interested citizens
 - i. Approximately 18 interested citizens attend the meeting.
 - f. The meeting was live-streamed
- II. Call to Order
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chair Courtland Nelson
 - b. The minutes of the February 7, 2018, meeting were approved.
- III. Regular Business
 - a. Briefing by Wendy Fisher, Director, Utah Open Lands
 - i. Ms. Fisher briefed the Committee and the citizens in attendance on the work of Utah Open Lands and emphasized:
 - 1. Importance of open space
 - a. Most people move to Utah to take advantage of recreational opportunities and scenic beauty
 - b. Open space increases real estate values and preserves the scenic views
 - 2. Types of space
 - a. Parks
 - b. Preserved open space
 - c. Conservation easements
 - d. Trails
 - e. Sensitive lands

- f. Buffer zones
 - 3. Conservation easements
 - a. Utah Open Lands has used conservation easements quite successfully in preserving open space
 - b. Tax incentives are available to land owner who grants the easement, but IRS closely regulates
 - c. Utah code 57-18-1 provides for conservation easements
 - d. Leveraging matching funds and foundation grants significantly increases the ability of a governmental unit to secure funding for conservation easements.
 - 4. The floor was opened for questions and answers
- b. Courtland Nelson briefed on the plans of the Wasatch County Open Space Board
 - i. County Open Space Board is moving forward to recommend a \$15million bond issue
 - ii. Should be presented to County Council by end of March in order for work to get done in time for ballot in fall.
 - iii. Tentatively planned to implement in three phases.
 - iv. Midway would realize about \$2million based on population
 - v. County bond does not preclude separate Midway bond.
- c. Michael Henke, City Planner, reported that City Council approved the Midway City Code text amendment proposed by the Committee.
- d. A brief discussion of future meeting agenda was held and the meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

Audio recording of meeting is at:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/m7zy757b7d916fz/180214_0006.MP3?dl=0