

# Utah Quality Growth Commission Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2007, 11:00 AM  
Salt Lake City, Utah, 84101

## Minutes

### Members Present

Dan Lofgren, Chairman  
Carlton Christensen, Vice Chair, by phone  
Lewis Billings  
Brad Barber  
David Allen, by phone  
Darrell Smith  
Mike Styler  
Mike Kohler  
Leonard Blackham

Excused

Jaren Davis, Vice Chair

### Staff Present

John Bennett, GOPB  
Mike Hansen, GOPB

Laura Ault, GOPB

### Visitors Present

Anna Boulton, Arts Council  
Wilson Martin, DCC  
Allyson Isom, DCC  
Gayle Mckecknie, Gov's Office  
Doug Clark, GOED  
George Ramjoue, WFRC  
Bruce Slater, DEQ  
Kevin Hochhalter, BYU  
Betsy Escandon, BYU  
CJ Beckstrom, BYU  
Shauna Kerr, TPL  
Ann Price, FFSL

Chairman Dan Lofgren conducted the meeting

### 1—Welcome and introductions – 5 minutes

### 2—Public Comments – 5 minutes

Shauna Kerr of the Trust for Public Land invited all in attendance to an open house celebrating the opening of their new Salt Lake City Office.

### 3— Approval of Minutes from December 6, 2006 Meeting

#### **ACTION ITEM: Approve December 6, 2006 meeting minutes—5 minutes**

The commission approved the minutes of the December, 2006 meeting. Jaren Davis moved approval, Mayor Smith Seconded, and the commission approved the minutes unanimously.

### 4— Presentation on Creative Communities Program, Anna Boulton, Utah Arts Council--20

Anna Boulton from the Utah Arts Council discussed the Creative Communities Program with the Commission. She said that the purpose of this program is to help communities develop a creative climate. The purpose is to help create arts and cultural infrastructure as well as promote economic drivers. They are looking for innovative connections in the community. They are seeking to have artists collaborate with many others whom they have not worked with before. And they are looking for ways to grow the economy through the arts and culture.

In many communities these projects took the form of cultural tourism. Anna passed out a list of projects given grants under this program. They varied from small stages, public art projects, to a feasibility study for a mixed use—Artspace type—Development in Provo.

The arts council is working on creating a Creative Vitality Index to help communities measure the vitality of the artistic and cultural life in there area. They will look at those attending movies, concerts and plays, those buying books, or music, and other similar measures to determine the cultural vitality. This index may help the state quantify the economic benefits of the arts and culture as well.

Chairman Lofgren posed the question, does a low vitality score indicate a place where we need to invest more money in order to nurture the arts, or does a high score indicate an area with interest in that should be supported? Anna reported that this is a question they are still asking themselves.

The commissioners asked Anna about what the nexus might be between the Quality Growth Commission’s work and the work she is doing. She indicated that she hoped that cultural planning could become part of what communities do, and maybe the commission could assist in getting that word out.

The commission discussed the issue of planning for culture, and how that might be implemented. Wilson suggested that the Cultural Heritage Council which exists at DCC is looking at that, but they are looking to partner with others and want the QGC to assist in that effort. Commissioners discussed the notion of alignment, and bringing our priorities as a state into alignment with how and where we spend money, and this one are where that alignment can increase.

Chairman Lofgren asked staff to put this issue on the agenda for subcommittees to talk about whether changes need to occur to our criteria bring culture into the equation.

### **5— Report and discussion on Audit of Utah Quality Growth Communities, Kevin Hochhalter, BYU MPA program—30 minutes**

Mr Hochhalter and two colleagues presented the findings of an audit they did of the Quality growth Communities program. The written report of their findings is attached.

Following their report, The commissioners discussed the program, its genesis, and where it is now. They also discussed what could be done to better promote the Quality Growth Communities program. Mayor Smith encouraged all the members to promote the program with the groups they represent such as the conference of Mayors, the League of Cities and Town, etc.

Some preliminary action steps were discussed, and the commissioners asked to have an additional 20 minutes on the agenda at the next meeting to discuss this further.

#### **Possible Action Steps:**

- 1—Take steps to keep the program in front of cities, counties and special districts.

2—Publish success stories such as priority given to communities in transportation enhancement funds.

3—Publish scenarios explaining what the benefits are and what they might mean to a given city in a given situation.

Put this on the agenda for next meeting for additional discussion

**LUNCH: Provided by GOPB**

**6— ACTION ITEM: Vote on Support for Super Toolkit, John Bennett—5 minutes**

John Bennett reminded the committee about the super toolkit and requested commission some support. The commission agreed to fund up to \$5000 from interest earnings, but would come back to the commission each time money will be expended. Jaren Davis moved to approve the allocation, Flint Richards seconded, and the allocation was approved unanimously.

**7—ACTION ITEM: Vote on extension on Rock Canyon Grant to Provo City, John Bennett—5 minutes**

Flint Richards moved to extend Rock Canyon for an additional three months to allow time to contact Senator Valentine and others, the motion was seconded, and approved unanimously.

**8— Legislative strategy, and funding Update, John Bennett--10 minutes**

HB 102—On the agenda for tomorrow’s meeting.

Capitol Facilities placed us on the list at \$2 million one time.

Pursuing both tracks.

**9—Critical Lands Subcommittee Report, update on proposed changes to rating and ranking system, Dave Allen, 15 minutes**

**ACTION ITEM---West Jordan Grant/TPL Urgent Application:** The commission had a discussion about the West Jordan grant which was suspended because West Jordan was able to complete the project without our funds. They asked the commission to move the money to a different project. The Commission felt that that is not possible because they need to evaluate a different project as part of a funding round. Subsequently, the Trust for Public Lands submitted a request for additional funding for the Glenn Farm Project. The Commission evaluated whether to give \$85000 to fully fund Glenn Farm, or to roll the money into the next round. The commission finally asked TPL to come back with more information about the project, and whether they will get the additional federal funds that they need. Flint Richards moved that we accept the urgent application, that we express a bias in favor of funding this application, and ask the applicant to come back to the next meeting with additional information, and further action. The commission expressed the hope that this would lead to completing the project as originally proposed. They indicated that if a phasing of the project was required, then the applicant would

need to go through the process again. Mike Kohler seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

**ACTION ITEM—Iron County CRMP Grant Realignment:** Laura Ault explained the previously approved grant to Iron County for a CRMP contained three parts. Two of those parts have been completed, one has not. The county is happy with what has been completed, and staff feels like we do not need the last part. The grant has been extended twice, and we feel that everything that is going to be done, has been done. Staff recommends paying out \$12,000 of the total \$15,000 and using the remaining \$3000 for an intern to help complete the rural character toolkit. Commissioners asked if the county was okay with this plan. Laura explained that she and Mike Hansen had met with Wes Curtis, the consultant, and he indicated that he was fine with the change. Jaren Davis moved to support the Staff request, his motion was seconded, and approved unanimously.

## **10—Administrative Matters**

Next Meeting February 28, 2007.