

UTAH QUALITY GROWTH COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 8, 2004 11:00 a.m.
State Capitol Complex - Olmsted Room
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

MEMBERS PRESENT

ASHBY, Kenneth	Former Pres. Farm Bureau (via teleconference call, Florida)
BARBER, Brad	Planning Consultant
CHRISTENSEN, Carlton	Salt Lake City Council; Zions Bank
HERBERT, Gary	Lieutenant Governor Elect; Utah County Commissioner
KERR, Shauna	VICE-CHAIR, Summit County Commissioner
LOFGREN, Dan	CHAIR; Cowboy Partners LC; Utah Home Builders
MORGAN, Bob	Department of Natural Resources
PAGE, Carol	Davis County Commissioner
PETERSON, Cary	Commissioner of Agriculture, Dept of Agriculture
SMITH, Darrell	Mayor, Draper City
THOMPSON, Max D.	Coldwell Banker

MEMBERS EXCUSED

ALLEN, Dave	Summit County Rancher
BILLINGS, Lewis	Provo City Mayor

STAFF

BENNETT, John	Project Manager
CARVER, Brian	Project Manager
CURTIS, Wes	State Planning Coordinator
HANSEN, Mike	Manager, State and Local Planning
NEILSON, Nancy	GOPB Staff

GUESTS

CHAPPELL, Chuck	WFRC
DOLSEN, Dana	Wildlife Planner, UDWR
FITTS, Randy	City of Holladay, City Manager
HALFORD, Val John	(Representing George Ramjoue) WFRC
JARDINE, Janice	Salt Lake City Council Staff
PRICE, Ann	Division of Fire, Forestry & State Lands

Agenda item #1 – Welcome Dan Lofgren

Dan welcomed everyone and thanked them for braving the weather.

Agenda item #2 – Public Input

Chuck Chappell WFRC:

Mr. Chappell expressed the importance of keeping critical lands and keeping a lot of people involved to protect them. Other points of interest:

- He expressed appreciation to John Bennett for his service on the Envision collaboration committee.
- Wasatch Front Regional Council and the Quality Growth Commission have been working together.
- Wasatch Front Regional Council and Mountainland Association of Governments have been working together for the first time. John Bennett keeps that connection open and Brad Barber represents the Commission on the steering committee.

He also said that there are two issues that are being discussed:

1. How will Smart Growth affect project ranking and selection?
2. Potential alternative criteria besides current trends. Criteria rankings.

***Agenda item #3 – Review Minutes of October 27, 2004**

Action:

Bob made the motion to accept the October minutes with the correction that South Jordan City Mayor Kent Money be added to the guest list. Brad Barber seconded the motion. The motion carried.

***Agenda item #4 – Review Planning Grant Application Documents – John Bennett**

On page three there was a date discrepancy that will be corrected. It concerned the date applications should be received. Applications should be received by Monday, February 7th.

Wes Curtis, State Planning Coordinator stated that the amount of funds needed for rural planning of public lands should be known within two weeks and the balance will be the ‘match funds’ for the McAllister \$50,000.00 set aside for the mapping project and the Critical Lands Toolkit.

Note: These funds come from a one time appropriation by the Legislature for a number of projects.

Action:

Cary Peterson made the motion to accept the documents in substance with opportunity for Commission Members to call if changes are needed. Mayor Darrell Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Agenda item #5 – Report on discussions with Legislators and others regarding annual report to the legislature; conflicts of interest, and follow up to Initiative 1 – Dan Lofgren and Shauna Kerr

This report was given very close to the Elections. Two questions pertained to the Quality Growth Commission (also Utah Quality Growth Commission) and the balance of the discussion

concerned the meaning of the Open Space Initiative. Dan Lofgren reported however, that they were able to request 2.75 million for the McAllister fund.

After the report lobbyists and reporters did approach Shauna Kerr and Dan Lofgren. They were also able to clarify for Senator Howard Stephenson that there was no conflict of interest on previous projects funded by the Commission. There is a bill open that would make corrections to the current act and possibly concerns for terms of office could be addressed. Carol Page and Brad Barber in a conversation with Senator Bell and Senator Stephenson understood Senator Stephenson to say that his concerns about the Commission have been met and further action was up to Senator Bell. It was not clear whether there would still be an audit of the Commission.

Shauna Kerr felt it all was all a big misunderstanding because people are not well informed about the responsibilities of the Commission. She also stated that it should be a goal for the new year to better educate people on “what we do.”

Cary Peterson commented that all of the actions taken by the Commission have been toward “great projects and all are very defensible.” He also suggested that the Governor’s media staff would be of great help in providing articles for the press regarding the Commission. They would be useful in getting the details out.

It was reported that some felt the opposition against the Quality Growth Commission was in reality against the Initiative and not against the Commission. Carol Page commented that, “a lot think Initiative One was a result of the McAllister Fund not getting funded.”

Ken Ashby also felt that the opposition was to the Initiative and not towards the Commission. He suggested that articles be printed in the paper.

At this time Lieutenant Governor Elect, Gary Herbert said, “I know that the Governor Elect is supportive of the Quality Growth Commission and the McAllister Fund.”

Agenda item #6 – Report on To Do list from October Meeting – John Bennett

It was recognized that many assignments were discussed at the Daybreak meeting.

- Communities Newsletter in January, UAC and other programs
- Letters to 21st Communities and Boards and Commissions have been sent.
- How to track and report benefits?
- Applications for planning assistance
 - #8 track cities that use benefits
 - #9 Are there benefits to their communities for doing that on a larger scale?
 - Tracking the results will be very beneficial!
- Monday Commission members should call to give more input.
- Highlight Communities on website

***Agenda item #7 – Report on progress of Holladay City Grant, Staff Recommendation on proposed next steps – John Bennett, Randy Fitts- Holladay City Manager**

Because Holladay City has made some adjustments to their original requests and because the size of the preservation area is different it was suggested that the request be resubmitted to the Critical Lands Subcommittee. Carlton Christensen stated that the time frame is not a problem because the preservation of a river corridor is worth it.

A different amount of money may also need to be appropriated because it is not the same exact project. Three years ago the Commission appropriated one quarter of a million dollars to Holladay City.

Randy was asked to submit updated letters of support.

Action:

Shauna Kerr made the motion to resubmit the application to the Critical Lands Subcommittee with submission of updated letters of support and Carol Page seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda item #8 – Update on member terms – Request assistance with nominations – John Bennett

It was suggested that Carol Page be appointed to finish the term of Lieutenant Governor Elect Gary Herbert. Shauna Kerr will not be seeking re-election and thus her term will end. Nominations have been requested and there is urgency in filling all upcoming vacancies to the Commission or there will not be the required number for a quorum. Cary Peterson can help with the recommendations.

Agenda item #9 – County Resource Management Plans Information (CRMP) – Wes Curtis

Eighteen counties have applied for grant money and want to be part of the first phase of planning grants. Only two may be able to participate.

Those who are involved in public lands planning are on the defense and efforts are being made to help them be on the offense through the County Resource Management Planning toolkit. Some of the tools for the toolkit are already in place but more will need to be completed. The completed toolkit will help the counties with their requests for financial support.

Wes Curtis, State Planning Coordinator included the following information as part of his presentation:

“The management and use of the public lands affect rural communities.... Rural leaders find themselves embroiled in a constant struggle over the conflicting demands on how to manage these lands... They will need a new level of sophistication in the tools and tactics that they have at their disposal. Local plans can potentially have a significant influence on the decisions that are made by the federal land management agencies.

“The law conveys a special status to local governments which allows them to participate in federal planning processes as “Cooperating Agencies.” The law also requires that the BLM give special consideration to the General Plans of State and local governments. As stated in the Federal Land Policy Management Act: ‘Land use plans of the Secretary (of

Interior)...shall be consistent with State and local plans to the maximum extent he finds consistent with Federal law and the purposes of this Act.’ (FLPMA, Sec. 202, C(9))

“By utilizing the resources contained in the public lands planning toolkit, local governments can greatly enhance their position in public lands planning and decision making processes.”

***Agenda item #10 – Commission participation in Envision Utah Quality Growth Awards – Brad Barber**

After some discussion it was noted that the annual “Governor’s Quality Growth Awards” recognition meeting has caused some confusion because of the title. It was suggested by Brad Barber that the Commission maintain their partnership with Envision Utah for this event and also allocate \$2500.00 towards expenses.

Action Taken:

Commissioner Carol Page made the motion to allocate the \$2500.00 for this awards program and Commissioner Shauna Kerr seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous in the affirmative.

Agenda item #11 – Administrative Matters

Outgoing members of the Commission were honored with a beautiful framed award for their service.

Lieutenant Governor Elect, Gary Herbert expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the Quality Growth Commission for the past six years and he paid tribute to the leadership including Dan Lofgren. He also recognized the Governor Elect, Jon Huntsman, Jr.’s support for the Quality Growth Commission and the McAllister fund.

Dan Lofgren, Chair of the Commission expressed pride in the work the Commission does and the fact that you can actually go out and kick a ‘dirt clod’ on some of the projects!

Adjournment for lunch: 12:53 p.m.

LUNCH: Holiday Social honoring the outgoing members of the Commission

(Lunch sponsored by the Utah Association of Realtors and will include a flank steak buffet.)

Action Items:

- **Holladay City to submit updated letters of support – Randy Fitts**
- **Lieutenant Governor Elect, Gary Herbert to check on media resources to help educate the public on the Quality Growth Commission (also known as Utah Quality Growth Commission)**
- **Cary Peterson to assist with recommendations for the Commission.**
- **Correction on page three of Planning Grant Application Documents – John Bennett**
- **Next meeting possibly late in January**
- **Wes Curtis to determine balance of matching funds**