CONEJO OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 13, 2017
Civic Arts Plaza Board Room
2100 Thousand Oaks Boulevard

SUMMARY MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE: for Regular Meeting at 6:00 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL: Vice-Chair Bill-de la Peña, Director Gibson, Director Jones and Chair Skei. Director Fox absent.

Also present were:

CRPD General Manager Friedl
Acting Assistant City Manager Rogers
CDD Deputy Director Gilli
Assistant City Attorney Liberman
COSCA Manager Mason
CRPD Park Superintendent Kouba
Assistant Planner Huber
Administrative Secretary Quiroz

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

4. PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. Conejo Open Space Trails Advisory Committee (COSTAC) Reports

i. National Trails Day Geocaching Hike, June 4

Assistant Planner Huber reported on the 3-mile hike that started at Triunfo Community Park. Eight participants found twelve geocaches.

ii. National Public Lands Day Public Outreach, September 30

Assistant Planner Huber reported that the members of COSTAC will conduct an outreach event at the main Wildwood trailhead for National Public Lands Day.
iii. Trail Work Day, October 21

Assistant Planner Huber reported that Fall Trail Work Day will be held at Sapwi Trails Community Park. COSCA's 40th Anniversary Celebration will follow the trail work.

B. COSCA Volunteer Corps Activity

Assistant Planner Huber reported on Volunteer Corps activities from May through August.

- Trailhead Outreach:
  - June 24: Hill Canyon trailhead was monitored
- Trail Watch:
  - 136 reports, 245 hours donated
- Trail Patrol:
  - 34 reports, 168 hours donated
- Adopt-A-Trail:
  - 60 reports, 254 hours donated
  - Program numbers remain the same with 51 volunteers having adopted 63 trails

5. CONSENT CALENDAR:

A. Approval of Minutes of May 10, 2017 Meeting

Vice-Chair Bill-de la Peña moved to approve minutes of May 10, 2017; Director Gibson seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 (Director Fox absent).

6. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Updated Priority List of Areas for Potential Acquisition as Open Space

Manager Mason presented a PowerPoint on the updated priority list of areas for potential acquisition as open space. On May 10, 2017, the Board held a public workshop to consider updates to the priority list. The Board supported staff recommendation to make two additions to the priority list: expansion of Area G (Conejo Ridge) and addition of Area X (Sunset West).

Vice-Chair Bill-de la Peña mentioned that Area G was initially part of the City's Bicycle Master Plan and asked if it could still be used as a bike path if it was purchased as open space. Manager Mason explained that a bike path had been considered in this area but the topography was too severe to build a paved bike path. A dirt trail will eventually be built through this area per COSCA's Trail Master Plan.
Director Gibson moved to approve the Updated Priority List of Areas for Potential Acquisition as Open Space. Vice-Chair Bill-de la Peña seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 (Director Fox absent).

7. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. Wildwood Park Update

Manager Mason presented an update on Wildwood Park. She summarized the actions taken by COSCA, CRPD, City and TOPD to address neighborhood concerns.


Chair Skei applauded staff from four agencies for their work to address neighborhood concerns and for developing an action plan. She mentioned that Wildwood Mesa was originally approved for construction of over 300 houses.

Director Jones thanked Mr. Lichalk and other residents for bringing their concerns to the Board’s attention.

Vice-Chair Bill-de la Peña commended CRPD and COSCA staff for their response to neighbor concerns.

B. COSCA’s 40th Anniversary Celebration

Manager Mason reported that COSCA’s 40th Anniversary Celebration will be held on October 21st at Sapwi Trails Park after the annual Trail Work Day. The Sapwi Trails Park groundbreaking will follow the celebration. There will be a free barbeque and presentations.

C. Rasnow Update (verbal report)

Manager Mason gave an update on the Rasnow acquisition. The donation agreement is in negotiations and the title reports have been received. A contract to prepare maps and legal descriptions for the 18 partial parcels offered through the donation has been executed and work is in progress.
D. New COSCA Website (verbal report)

Assistant Planner Huber reported on the new COSCA website and displayed some of the new pages. The website is more contemporary in design and is responsive to smaller screen sizes.

Speakers: Mark Lichalk, Thousand Oaks.

E. Lake Eleanor Dam – CA Department of Water Resources Letter

Assistant Planner Huber reported that in July 2017, the California Department of Water Resources notified CRPD that the Lake Eleanor Dam had been given a “high hazard classification.” An Emergency Action Plan and updated inundation map for the dam are required to be completed by January 2019.

CRPD General Manager Friedl pointed out that the “high hazard classification” is related to the population below the dam and has nothing to do with the structural integrity of dam.

F. Upcoming Open Space-Related Conferences (verbal report)

Manager Mason reported that staff will be attending two open space-related conferences at the end of October. The first is the California Invasive Plant Council Symposium and the second is the National Land Conservation Conference sponsored by the Land Trust Alliance. Manager Mason extended an invitation to the Board to attend the conferences.

G. COSCA Ranger Operations and Maintenance Activities (verbal report)

CRPD Superintendent Kouba reported on COSCA Ranger Operations and Maintenance Activities.

8. BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS:

9. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:44 P.M. to 6:00 P.M., February 28, 2018, Civic Arts Plaza Board Room.

Submitted by: 

Rorie Skel, Chairperson

Date: February 28, 2018