



Utah Quality Growth Commission
C/O Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
150 State Capitol
Salt Lake City, UT 84114
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Utah Quality Growth Commission

Jaren Davis, Chair
Flint Richards, Vice Chair

John Bennett, Executive Director

MEETING Minutes
Thursday, December 10, 2008, 2:00 PM
Conference Room, Suite 140, Utah State Capitol
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Commissioners Attending

Jaren Davis, Chairman
Laraine Swenson
Mayor Darrell Smith

Staff Attending

John Bennett, Executive Director
Evan Curtis, GOPB

Visitors Attending

Adam Cowie, Lindon City
Val John Halford, WFRM
Lt. Governor Gary Herbert

1. Welcome and Introductions, 5 minutes Jaren Davis, Chair

Chairman Davis welcomed commissioners and visitors to the meeting.

2. Public Comments, 5 Minutes Jaren Davis, Chair

Chairman Davis invited public comment from those attending. No such comment was presented.

3. Approval of Minutes from October Meeting Jaren Davis, Chair,

As a quorum was not present, the minutes from the October meeting were not approved.

4. Request for Change of Use on Lindon Wetlands Project, 10 minutes, John Bennett

Lindon requested funds to acquire the property where the wetlands sit. However, they now would like to use McAllister Funds to restore and enhance the wetlands, as they have been able to obtain other funds to acquire the property.

Adam Cowie from Lindon City and John Bennett from Commission Staff spoke to this proposed Change. Mr. Bennett explained that the Commission had agreed in the October meeting to give \$150,000 to Lindon to acquire this wetland area as storm water retention and treatment area. The area will also have a trail along it that will connect to the Utah Lake and Jordan River Park Way trails.

Since the October meeting, Lindon and its partners have had a meeting with the property owners and have reached an agreement that is within the funding they have budgeted for this acquisition. However, one of the conditions of the sale is that they relocate the stream entirely off the remaining property. So, Lindon is now requesting that this money from the LeRay McAllister Fund be used to help pay the costs of relocating the stream, and re-vegetating the new stream bed. Restoration is an allowable use of the funds from the McAllister Fund, but the commission wanted to review the plans for this project before giving final approval.

Mr. Bennett asked Mr. Cowie about the impact of the stream relocation on the functioning of the wetland. Mr. Cowie indicated that the existing wetland would not be affected by this relocation. Mr. Bennett asked if a plan was in place that described the actions that would be taken during relocation. Mr. Cowie indicated that a plan was not yet crafted, but would be. Mayor Smith asked if this relocation and re-vegetation was something that they intended to do anyway. Mr. Cowie indicated that it was. He indicated that the thing that was different was that they were able to acquire the property for less than they anticipated, so that the McAllister Funds were not necessary for that purpose. Mr. Cowie indicated that Anderson-Geneva agreed to a lower purchase price because Lindon and Orem agreed to relocate the stream. The relocation made the value of the remaining developable land greater, and they were not responsible for the costs of relocation.

Commissioner Swenson asked if the stream course was changing through the wetlands. Mr. Cowie indicated that the only change would be north of the existing wetland where the water enters the wetland. Commissioner Swenson also asked about the Phragmites which was observed in the wet land area. Was a plan devised to remove the phragmites and replace it with more native water plants that provide better food and habitat value? Mr. Cowie indicated that no plan existed to address that specific issue yet, but it could be included in the restoration plan. Mr. Bennett indicated that there are innovative phragmites control measures being taken in Utah right now including using cattle early in the spring to eat the phragmites plants. He offered to put the Lindon planners in touch with some experts who could help with this control effort.

Mr. Bennett indicated that a vote to change the use of the funds was probably necessary. He urged Commissioners to include in that motion a requirement that the commission review the restoration plan before it is executed. Mayor Smith made the motion to approve the change, Chairman Davis relinquished the chair to Mayor Smith for purposes of seconding the motion.

As a quorum was not present, staff indicated that they would call commission members to get their votes. Later, the commissioners asked that this be postponed until the January meeting so that a greater number of Commissioners could be present for the discussion prior to the vote. Lindon City agreed to postpone the vote and put it back on the agenda.

5. Budget discussion and legislative strategy, John Bennett

The Commission did not discuss this item.

6. 2009 Work plan discussion—15 minutes, Jaren Davis, John Bennett, Staff

7. Discussion of terms ending April 2009 and need of reappointment or new appointees.

John Bennett indicated that several members of the commission would need to be replaced or re-appointed. Due to lack of a quorum, this discussion was postponed until January meeting.

8. Meeting with Lt. Governor Gary Herbert.

Lt. Governor Herbert stopped by the Commission meeting to wish the Commissioners well and to let them know that he and Governor Huntsman appreciated their service. He indicated that issues of Quality Growth and the balance between development and conserving critical resources continue occur everywhere, and the work that the Commission does in helping to address this balance is critical.

Lt. Governor Herbert indicated that budgets are tight, but that he is tired of the doom and gloom that he hears. He said that he sees great opportunity in the markets now especially for buyers, and that we should look forward to things improving. He indicated that Utah's exports are up this year by 50% over last year. Chairman Davis asked what the major components of that are. Lt. Governor Herbert indicated that it comes from many areas of the economy.

9 Administrative Matters—Recognition of resigning members for service on the Commission.

Next meeting will be January 28, 2009