

Utah Quality Growth Commission Meeting

Wednesday, June 25, 2008, 11:00 AM,
Emmental Room, Zermatt Resort
Midway, UT 84049

Meeting Agenda

Some commission members joined the meeting by phone for the purpose of obtaining a quorum

Commissioners Present

Flint Richards, Utah Farm Bureau, Vice Chairman
Mike Styler, Executive Director, UDNR
Mike Kohler, Wasatch County Council
Sally Elliott, Summit County Commission
Reed Erickson, Member-at-Large
Larry Ellertson, Utah County Commission
Laraine Swenson, Logan City Council

Leonard Blackham, Commissioner, UDAF
Ken Mitchell, Utah Homebuilders Association
Brent Tanner, Utah Cattlemen's Association.

Staff Present

John Bennett, Executive Director

Visitors Present

Steve Farrell, Chairman, Wasatch County Council
Kevin Fayles, Envision Utah
Nicol Gagstetter, the Nature Conservancy
Carol Platter, Wasatch Loop Trail
Trish Murphy, Wasatch Loop Trail
Val John Halford, Wasatch Front Regional Council

Member attending by Telephone

Mayor Darrell Smith
Justin Allen, Centerville City Council

Members Excused

Chairman Jaren Davis, Utah Association of Realtors

1—Welcome and introductions, Vice Chairman Flint Richards, 5 minutes

Vice Chairman Richards called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Each commissioner present introduced themselves, as did the members of the public present.

2—Public Comments—5 minutes

Trish Murphy, of the Wasatch Loop Trail Coalition shared information with the Commission about the Wasatch Loop Trail, and asked the commission for its support for a small appropriation to support the continued effort to promote the trail and its completion. The Commission agreed to place the request on the agenda for their next meeting in August.

3—Greeting from Wasatch County

Wasatch County Council Chairman Steve Farrell welcomed the Commission to Wasatch County. He also thanked the commission for a Critical Lands Planning Grant the county received, and described some of the outcomes of the Grant. The County is currently working with the cities to implement the critical lands plan. Chairman Farrell indicated that the grant had been very useful, and promised to share a copy of the plan with the commission.

4—Approval of Minutes from May 28, 2008 meetings

ACTION ITEM: Approve May meeting minutes—5 minutes

Commissioner Reed Erickson moved approval of the minutes. Commissioner Larry Ellertson seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously with commissioners Smith and Allen voting by telephone.

LUNCH sponsored by Zermatt Resort.

5—Review of request from Salem City to accept emergency pre-application for Salem Parkway Project.

John Bennett, 20 minutes

Salem City requested that they be allowed to submit a full application to this round of funding on an emergency basis. Salem City missed the deadline for submitting a pre-application but argued that the project could not proceed without support from the Commission.

The Commission previously received an application for this project in an earlier cycle and the project had been visited by Vice Chairman Richards. He indicated his belief that the project was not an emergency and that the Commission should not accept the emergency application.

ACTION ITEM: Act on Salem City Request

After some discussion Vice Chairman Richards moved to deny the request from Salem City. This motion was seconded, and the vote was 3 in favor, and 6 opposed with Commissioners Ellertson, Allen and Smith voting yes, and all others present voting no. Since any proposal requires nine votes to pass, this measure failed.

(Note: At the request of Chairman Davis, who was not present at the meeting, the commission agreed to reconsider its action on this vote by e-mail. By a vote of 9 yes, 3 no, with one not voting, the application was accepted with the understanding that accepting the application does not mean that the project will be funded, only that it will be reviewed along with all the other applications received this year.)

6—Review Request from American West Heritage Center to fund land acquisition costs. John Bennett, 20 Minutes.

In 2007, the Commission approved spending \$100,000 for acquisition of an easement on property adjacent to the American West Heritage Center. The request was based on an estimated easement value. The appraised value turns out to be lower than the estimated value. Based on the appraisal, the Commission can only put \$67,500 toward acquisition costs. The heritage center is now requesting that the Commission cover up to 50% of the costs of the appraisal, easement drafting and other expenses, with the total expenditures on this project not to exceed \$75,000. The additional \$25,000 will be turned back to the Commission for use in funding other projects in this round.

ACTION ITEM: Act on American West Heritage Center Request

Commissioner Elliott moved to approve the request to modify the budget for the American West Heritage Center Grant. Commissioner Ellertson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with commissioners Smith and Allen voting by telephone.

7—Staff and Expenses Budget Request and Discussion for FY 2009, John Bennett, 10 Minutes.

John Bennett explained that the Quality Growth Act allows commission expenses to be paid from the LeRay McAllister Fund. Each year, the Commission grants funds to the Governors Office of Planning and Budget to support the staff and commission expenses. Mr. Bennett requested \$82,600 from the LeRay McAllister Fund, and \$17,600 from interest, a total of \$100,000, be transferred this year, the same amount that was transferred last year.

ACTION ITEM: Act on Staff Budget Request

Commissioner Elliott moved to approve the budget request from GOPB. Commissioner Swenson seconded. The motion was approved unanimously with Commissioners Smith and Allen voting by telephone.

8—SUPER Update, report on report on Status of SUPER Tool and planner education efforts, 10 minutes, John Bennett and Evan Curtis.

John Bennett gave the commission a brief update on the progress of the SUPER Tool and other planner education and outreach efforts.

9—Administrative Matters.

John Bennett reminded the commissioners that the July Meeting is cancelled. He further reminded them that the next meeting will be Friday, August 22, 2008 in Cedar City. Commissioner Reed Erickson will host.