



**Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
MINUTES**

January 23, 2020
6:30 p.m.

Commissioners' Hearing Room, 3rd Floor
Boulder County Courthouse, 1325 Pearl Street, Boulder, CO

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Jenn Archuleta

Members:

Scott Miller
Sue Anderson
Kira Pasquesi
Heather Williams
Jenn Archuleta
Steven Meyrich
Trace Baker
James Krug -- **Excused**
Paula Fitzgerald -- **Excused**

Staff:

Eric Lane
Vivienne Jannatpour
Renata Frye
Nik Brockman
Jeff Moline
Janis Whisman
Blake Cooper
Trent Kischer
Sandy Duff

Approval of the December 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes

ACTION REQUESTED: Minutes Approval

ACTION: Pasquesi moved approval of item. Meyrich seconded the motion.

VOTE: **AYES:** Miller, Anderson, Pasquesi, Williams, Archuleta, Meyrich, Baker; **EXCUSED:** James Krug, Paula Fitzgerald;

Public Participation - Items Not on the Agenda

None

Presentations

Tucker Acquisition

ACTION REQUESTED: Recommendation to BOCC

PRESENTER: Sandy Duff, Senior Land Officer
Public Comments (electronic submissions):

Steve Bond, 5120 Illini Way, Boulder. It would be great to see new trails on this open space, particularly a new mountain bike trail. Many of the days I ride have me driving an hour or more to ride a new trail. Having more trails closer to home would be a great thing to finally see.

Ian Wilson, 4651 Dapple Lane, Boulder. I am pretty concerned that an acquisition such as this will be categorically shut off for recreation. We are spending millions of public funds to buy a piece of land and you are stating that there will be no chance to responsibly recreate on it. You will likely state something to the effect of "this is protecting the land forever from development." That land hasn't been developed in over 100 years. Yes, we can still protect it from development, but we should be able to enjoy the land as responsible recreational stewards instead of just looking at it longingly from the road. Yes, it is possible to recreate and enjoy the land while still protecting it. Buying this and shutting it down is just taking it from one private owner to the next even if the name "open space" is next to the name. As it is public money, the public should be able to enjoy it.

ACTION: Baker moved approval of item. Anderson seconded the motion.

VOTE: **AYES:** Miller, Anderson, Pasquesi, Williams, Archuleta, Meyrich, Baker; **EXCUSED:** James Krug, Paula Fitzgerald;

Carbon Sequestration Study Update

ACTION REQUESTED: None, Information item only

PRESENTERS: Vanessa McCracken and Trent Kischer, Resource Specialists; Dr. Blake Cooper, Agricultural Resources Division Manager

Director's Update

- The Boulder Area Trails app was finally released and we're getting very positive reviews.
- The Heil Valley Ranch Forestry Project has begun. This is a nearly \$1M project that will eventually use a helicopter to remove trees just like the successful Betasso Preserve project. There will be some trail closures at Heil while the helicopter is flying, slated for early to mid-February and should last 4-8 weeks.
- A sky quality meter was installed early January at the Walker Ranch Homestead by the National Park Service Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division. The meter will continuously collect data throughout the spring and into the summer, measuring light pollution and the reflection of city lights off clouds. Contact Deborah Price at dprice@bouldercounty.org if you have questions.
- We held our annual prairie dog stakeholders meeting a couple of weeks ago. There were over 70 people who attended. The Birds of Prey Foundation brought a live Red-tailed Hawk and talked about the value of the prairie dogs we donate to them. No new policies are proposed at this time.
- We are accepting nominations for the Land Conservation Awards through the end of January. The categories for nominations are Land Conservation, Environmental Stewardship, and Historic Preservation. We'd love to get nominations from you if you know of any people or groups who have done work that meets the criteria for these categories. The event will be on Tuesday, April 21, at the Parks & Open Space building. We'll also be honoring exceptional volunteers and partners that day-we hope you can make it! All the information and the nomination form are on the website.
- We are working on the agenda for the annual POSAC retreat. A draft will be sent to you shortly.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:39 p.m.