



**Canoa Ranch Conservation Committee
Minutes
Regular Meeting**

**September 8, 2015
Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department**



Quorum was established and Chair Sheridan called the meeting to order at 4:40p.m.

Committee members present: Chair Tom Sheridan, Vice-Chair Dan Brocious, Amanda Castillo, Karen Cesare, David Yubeta, Dr. Wade McLean, Patricia Preciado-Martin, Nan Walden – attended via conference call at 5:10p.m.

Wade McLean departed meeting at 5:45p.m.

Member absent – Stan Riddle

Staff Present: Robert Vaughn, Valerie Samoy, Simon Herbert, Kerry Baldwin

Committee recited The Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. McLean made a motion, seconded by David Yubeta, to approve the March 10, 2015 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

1. Bond Implementation Plan Ordinance for the 2015 Bond Election – Plan Ordinance will come before the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, September 15. Chair reminded CRCC of rules regarding discussion/action on bond issue as an official county commission and the significant penalties as a PC Commission advocating or opposing bond issue. CRCC members can speak in favor or disfavor of bonds as private citizens. Canoa Ranch is slated for implementation in the latter periods 4, 5 and 6 of the bond cycle. The bond has 7 propositions and Canoa Ranch is under **Prop 427 under Tourism and Promotion**. Question – what monies can be used for Canoa pending decision on bond issue? Robert Vaughn – Canoa currently funded under the general fund of NRPR - \$250,000 yearly budget. No construction budget – use O/M. In Lieu Fee Fund Flood Control Restoration Project planned for Canoa about \$1M to cover water resource projects - irrigation, pond, water tank, not officially approved, but in the plans. Find additional funding for an actual construction budget in NRPR budget - \$70,000 to \$100,000 to move forward with several projects and keep momentum with developing Canoa. CRCC can look to outside groups for fundraising efforts to move Canoa projects forward. Concern was raised about language of Canoa bond item, change language to reflect cultural/historical importance and significance of all people who inhabited Canoa. Question – will there be online access summary of bond items available to voters? Response – there will be summary of projects for voters to access online. CRCC is urged to follow up and make sure summary documents are provided online to voters. Comment was made that there is strong support for all the other bond items under **Prop 427**: AZ Sonora Desert Museum, Pima Air and Space Museum, Tucson Children's Museum, Temple of Music and Art.

2. Canoa Report presented by Robert Vaughn. Discussion in the GV News about Canoa Ranch. Robert Vaughn presented a PPT showing the historic rehabilitation work by Pima County from 2005 to the present. Strong group of volunteers helping with rehabilitation work and another giving guided tours of the ranch. Many return visitors. Beautiful educational site. Canoa Ranch doesn't have a budget for interpretive program and displays. Pima County does it a piecemeal at a time. Bond issue includes monies to develop and expand interpretive programs. Simon Herbert is working with NPS to bring an adobe workshop next year to Canoa Ranch. Numerous partnerships at Canoa Ranch with the volunteers and Green Valley Gardeners. Update on Proctor's Collection: Agreement is with the group of trustees (George Proctor Western Heritage Trust) and close to finalization of agreement and having the collection at Canoa. Chair Sheridan urged CRCC to share PPT and Master Plan about Canoa Ranch to other groups in the community. Comments: TEACRAT International group of like-minded people to teach municipalities and architectural students about adobe to be held in March in Tumacacori. An opportunity to showcase the National Park Service's 100th birthday and its outreach to municipalities and groups. Will have participants from Mexico, Southern Arizona and the University of Arizona.

Future Agenda Items

Bond Election Results

Tentatively set a meeting for the spring, inviting Jim Cook Western National Parks Assoc. Mention of **Prop 426, Southern Arizona Regional Orientation Center**- project to develop a regional orientation center on the Santa Cruz River to help advance and enhance economic development in the community through tourism in the region. A one -stop shop for tourists.

Mention of Prop 430 and the Site Interpretation/Preservation of County Cultural Resource Sites.

Concern expressed about highlighting and advancing the Mexican families and stories at Canoa. Suggestion to reach out to outside groups for help in expanding programs at Canoa. Next meeting tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at Canoa Ranch 4:00p.m.

Call to Public

Comments supporting more historical displays at Canoa depicting the lives and culture of all the peoples who have inhabited Canoa. Support for a research library at Canoa. Support for placing emphasis on bond item summaries to promote the historical and cultural aspects of Canoa. Comment made about Call to Public and Open Meeting Law. Comment was made that online information and resources are readily available for Canoa bond item and bond election. The YES Committee for the bond election is the committee that people can contact for some concerns expressed.

Adjournment

Patricia Preciado-Martin made a motion, seconded by David Yubeta to adjourn. Duly motioned and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05p.m.