



## Canoa Ranch Conservation Committee

### Minutes Regular Meeting

July 29, 2014

Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department



Quorum was established and Chair Sheridan called the meeting to order at 4:04pm.

Committee members present: Chair Tom Sheridan, Vice-Chair Dan Brocious, Amanda Castillo, Karen Cesare, Stan Riddle, David Yubeta, Dr. Wade McLean  
Member present via conference call – Nan Walden  
Member absent – Patricia Preciado - Martin

Staff Present: Robert Vaughn, Valerie Samoy, Kerry Baldwin, Chris Cawein

Stan Riddle made a motion, seconded by Wade McLean, to approve the May 6, 2014 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee recited The Pledge of Allegiance.

### **New Business**

1. Committee discussed, reviewed and modified proposed bylaws drafted by Bylaws Subcommittee. Chair Sheridan directed staff to present revised draft at next meeting for a vote. Discussion took place whether to have 2 scheduled meetings or 4 scheduled meetings a year. Mr. Riddle made a motion for 4 scheduled meetings a year, seconded by Karen Cesare. Motion carried with David Yubeta opposing.
2. Amanda Castillo made motion to form outreach subcommittee to promote Canoa Ranch in regards to bond issue, seconded by Mr. Riddle. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Castillo has done some preliminary outreach in the community only to find out that many groups are not aware of Canoa Ranch. Chair Sheridan has asked all CRCC members to do outreach.
3. Robert Vaughn gave an overview of process for reviewing public/private partnership proposals for future development of Canoa Ranch. NRPR Director, Robert Vaughn and Linda Mayro conduct initial evaluation of proposal. Second evaluation is conducted by Canoa Ranch Staff Committee (NRPR, RFCD, Office of Sustainability and Conservation, Facilities Management, Real Property). Proposal is then forwarded to County Administrator and viable proposal is forwarded to CRCC. Mr. Vaughn said team is developing an overlay map of Canoa Ranch (4800 acres) to include areas set aside for conservation, in-lieu fee projects, flood plain, and sensitive archaeological sites. Ms. Cesare asked who the individuals are on the Canoa Ranch Staff Committee. Staff will provide list of names and also a written description of evaluation process to CRCC. Ms. Cesare suggested CRCC needs an independent list of all proposals presented to County – viable or not. Mr. Riddle asked if proposals outside of the Canoa Master Plan would be considered. If it is viable, yes.
4. Chris Cawein and Robert Vaughn presented an In-Lieu Fee Project with US Corps of Engineers for Canoa Ranch. Under Section 404 Clean Water Act, certain development projects need mitigation for projects. PC created mitigation program for Santa Cruz River – east of the berm of Canoa Ranch – 300 acres to restore floodplain and floodway.

Developers would come to PC to purchase credits and apply to mitigation for that area. Bring project to CRCC at its Sep 9 meeting. (County Administrator's memo of July 28. Staff will gather Corps comments and bring item to CRCC on Sep 9)

5. Item moved to next meeting

6. Item moved to next meeting

7. Dr. McLean gave an update on the Bond Advisory Committee's work to prioritize \$1.1 billion dollars of requests to \$550million - \$750 million worth of projects. BAC is ramping up its work and timeline and will meet 2X/month. The next BAC is set for Sep 19, at 8am. If the bond election takes place Nov 2015, need to push schedule and have bond list ready by Dec 2014 for the Board of Supervisors. Dr. McLean has toured San Xavier and the suggestion was made to invite BAC to visit Canoa Ranch in an effort to increase awareness of Canoa Ranch and its bond item. In the bond survey, the projects ranking high on the list are the ones that have organized supporters and lobbying efforts. CRCC requested staff prepare a 1 page sheet of talking points for Canoa Ranch. CRCC will reach out to various groups in the community for letters of support. Wade made note of Call to the Public for BAC meeting as an opportunity for supporters to address BAC. CRCC asked for BAC member list. Ms. Walden suggested a minimum of 2 tours. Suggestion was made to invite Supervisor Ray Carroll on the tour with BAC. Chair Sheridan asked Staff to keep a list of groups in the Santa Cruz Valley that would be supporters of the ranch. Ms. Castillo suggested that PC hold special events at Canoa Ranch involving poet laureate to make a much broader appeal to other groups that like knowledge and love to discover and learn. She suggested that CRCC reach out to Tucson groups as well as Green Valley groups.

8. Next meeting is Tuesday, Sep 9 at 4pm.

### **Future Agenda Items**

Chair Sheridan stated the main agenda item for next meeting would be to approve the bylaws, discuss creation of other subcommittees, review In-Lieu Fee Project with Corps of Engineers and any other proposals. Ms. Cesare made a motion, seconded by Mr. Riddle for staff to provide a list of non-viable Canoa Ranch proposals as a hand-out with no-action. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McLean left meeting.

### **Call to Public**

Ellie Kurtz informed CRCC of an activity that was held at the ranch the first week of July with school age children from all over Pima County, visiting Canoa Ranch to hear and discover its history, participate in roping activities, rollout mesquite beans. Both volunteers and children enjoyed activities. Ms. Kurtz also recommended a periodical "History of La Canoa" as reading material.

Mr. Riddle made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cesare to adjourn. Duly motioned and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm.