



**TOWN OF FOUNTAIN HILLS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MCDOWELL MOUNTAIN PRESERVATION COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 27, 2016**

AGENDA ITEM #1: CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A public meeting of the McDowell Mountain Preservation Commission was convened and called to order by Chair Bill Myers at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 27, 2016 in the Council Chambers at Town Hall, located at 16705 East Avenue of the Fountains, Fountain Hills, Arizona.

AGENDA ITEM #2: ROLL CALL

Present at roll call were Chair Bill Myers, Vice-Chair Barberic, Commissioner Tom Aiello, Bill Craig, Klaus Schadle and Ken Thornton. Commissioner Stan Ruden attended by phone. Staff members present were Director Mark Mayer and Executive Assistant Jennifer Lyons.

AGENDA ITEM #3: CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one from the public wished to speak.

AGENDA ITEM #4: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE AUGUST 23, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Schadle made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 23, 2016 meeting, with the correction on the first bullet point under Agenda Item #6, changing the word from not motorized to unmanned, Commissioner Craig seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM #5: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A DATE FOR THE JOINT MEETING WITH COUNCIL

Discussion ensued among the Commissioners and the consensus was that the March would probably be the most beneficial time. No motion was made.

AGENDA ITEM #6: TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED AT BE ADDRESSED AT THE JOINT MEETING WITH COUNCIL

Chair Myers proposed the following topics, but would like to defer this agenda item to the next meeting to come up with a consolidated list.

- Trailhead construction timeline.
- Dissolution of the MMPC, or possibly extending the Commission.
- Details of the bid, especially as it relates to the marquee.
- Quarterly updates to the Council.

AGENDA ITEM #7: DISCUSSION OF THE EAST LOOP SONORAN TRAIL

Commissioner Craig stated the amount of loops is in limbo in terms of two or three loops due to field changes. Right now the place where the second loop was to go makes it very steep, which won't be that

bad for hikers but it would be for bikers. Since we were approved for three loops, we are still going to push for that, but if it doesn't make sense we will make arrangements to go back to Council and ask for two.

Chair Myers passed out a map, which is a sales brochure that is given out at the guardhouse at Eagle's Nest that was used for reference. A copy of the map is attached to the minutes. A review of the five stipulations that need to be done in building this Trail is listed below. The first two stipulations are in progress.

- Moving the Trail from 200ft to 300ft from the back of the property line.
- Build the Trail only two feet wide to discourage the use of ORV (off road vehicles)
- Placement and types of barriers placed at the jeep trails.
- Location and wording on the "No Trespassing" signs. Signs to be placed on the property lines. Commissioner Craig commented that there is a jeep trail coming down to Lot 138 and there is an offshoot of this that comes down around Lot 142, but due to the construction that has transpired, there is no way a vehicle could get on at that point, so his feeling was that the sign should go up where the jeep trail crossed the Trail in the Preserve. A sign possibly may go at Lot 157.
- Signage for the Trail and matching the signage to the other Trails.

Director Mayer will schedule a site visit with Chair Myers and Commissioner Craig to verify signage and boulder placement.

AGENDA ITEM #8: UPDATE ON THE 2016 OBJECTIVES

- Quick Read – Commissioner Thornton would like to turn them over to the Town and have the Town revisit paying for the website. There is a \$75.00 per year cost to maintain the website and we could manage the website ourselves or through a consultant.
- Scar on the Mountain – The area that needs to be stained is approximately 10,000 square feet along the Promenade Trail to stain. Commission Thornton suggested this item be added to the Trailhead bid as an "add alternate" item. Director Mayer concurred and suggested that if it was not possible under the Trailhead project, that this might be something we could do ourselves.
- Trail counters and corresponding numbers – There are four trail counters; one is on the Overlook Trail, one is in Commissioner Craig's garage, one is at the far end of the Andrews-Kinsey Trail pretty close to Scottsdale and one on the Sonoran Trail. Commissioner Ruden will ensure monthly readings get done on the Trails by himself or other Commissioners, pending access to Andrews-Kinsey Trail during Adero Construction.

AGENDA ITEM #9: DISCUSSION OF THE 2017 MMPC OBJECTIVES

Chair Myers and Vice Chair Barberic will be meeting to go over the 2017 Objectives and the talk about them at the next Commission Meeting. Below are some objectives outlined by Chair Myers:

- Complete the Trailhead construction advising
- Complete the East Loop Sonoran Trail
- Signage on the East Loop Sonoran Trail
- Test the 911 system in coordination with Assistant Fire Chief Jason Payne
- Conservancy hike schedule – scfh.org
- MCO update with Jeremy Hall on what's happening in Adero
- Grand Opening of the Trailhead
- New maps

- Budget for MMPC and the Trails
- Administrator for Final Settlement Agreement in regards to the Preserve and the Trailhead
- Scar on the Mountain
- Firewising
- Five layers of protection
- Quarterly updates with Council
- Signage
- Naming the Trailhead

AGENDA ITEM #10: UPDATE ON THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2016 COMMUNITY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING

Director Mayer gave a brief overview of the meeting.

- Joint Meeting with Council – Commission will revisit this item in January.
- Reviewed Commissioners with terms ending December 31, 2016.
- Discussed the changes approved Council to Chapter 9 of the Town Code relating to drones. Only the State has the ability to set rules specific to drones and if you have at least four parks in your municipality, you must designate one of them for drone usage. After much discussion with staff and the Commission it was recommended to and approved by Council that the large soccer field at Desert Vista Park be utilized when activities are not taking place.
- Community Garden – some preliminary work has been done on the site. The Town has done some cleaning up, grubbing and pruning of the trees. Bart Shea who is doing the two developments next to the site has offered to do some grading and trenching for the water lines.
- The tennis courts at Golden Eagle Park and Four Peaks Park were all redone with post tension concrete to help eliminate cracks. Renovations finished up last night around 10:30-11:00 p.m. just in time for our first reservation at 8:30 a.m. this morning.
- Dog Park renovations went in conjunction with the re-opening of the complex. The only other major additions we did were some sidewalks and connections to some benches we are going to have there and they are schedule to arrive tomorrow.
- Lake Water Quality – There was a Special Session with Council, with a presentation to educate new and re-educate existing Councilmembers with the issues we have trying to maintain effluent water and use it for irrigation purposes. In the past, over the summer most we have ever needed to treat the lake was one to two times. This summer we treated the lake five times and it was not particularly effective. We tried to bump up the run times of the fountain, but the problem we ran into this year was that we had a lot of days that were extremely windy. In an analysis of run times between last year and this year, they were almost identical. The secret is to get the water mixed. We have the potential to accept water from the Sanitary District Treatment Plant, which is a much higher quality than pulling it out of the lake, where we get almost no turnover now. That would allow us to do all kinds of things we currently can't do because we have to use the water on the turf. There is also the option of building a reservoir inside the lake that would be by the pump house. The problem we ran into was to be able to size it large enough to accommodate our water use because we are using 800,000 gallons a water each night. To accommodate that level of capacity, we would need fairly large storage tanks above or below ground. The cost is from \$700,000 to \$1,000,000 to do that. We do have the money in the budget to move ahead with more aerators. We will be going from twelve to thirty-six aerators with horizontal mixers in each of the coves where the algae tends to collect.

- Lights at Fountain Park – The cut sheets from the vendor did not indicate that the specifications were just for the black bollards and not the other colored bollards. The electrical consultant did testing on both black and grey bollards, although there was some difference, there was not a substantial difference. This will be going to Council at the October 20th, 2016 meeting. We also looked at if the Council was going to make a change, what those costs would be.

AGENDA ITEM #11: UPDATE ON WHICH MMPC MEMBERS WILL ATTEND THE CSAC MEETINGS THROUGH DECEMBER

The following Commissioners volunteered to attend the next three CSAC meetings, starting at 5:00 p.m.

- October 24th, 2016 – Commissioner Thornton
- November 28th, 2016 – Vice-Chair Barberic
- December – No Meeting
- January 23rd, 2017 – Commissioner Aiello

AGENDA ITEM #12: DISCUSSION OF MERGING THE MMPC INTO THE CSAC AT THE END OF 2017 AND THE POSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING THE MMPC

This item was discussed under Agenda Item #6. Chair Myers suggested keeping this item on future agendas until a decision is made.

AGENDA ITEM #13: UPDATE ON THE ADERO CANYON TRAILHEAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Chair Myers gave an overview of the third meeting with J2 and recent publications in The Times.

- MCO supplied 12,000 cubic yards of soil that will be used for the Trailhead.
- Still to be verified is 540 cubic yards of AB that is needed for some of the roads.
- Estimated construction costs of \$2.1 million give or take.
- A garden will be built for the salvage plants, 50-100 yards above the Trailhead.
- Mortality rate for the saguaros is 10%. Nothing over twelve feet will be harvested. Twenty-three will be salvaged.
- Bid Alternates: The only ones that remain are the gate for \$20,000, the ramada for \$75,000, and the seat wall for \$5,000. The staining for the Promenade will be added at the next meeting. Commissioners requested that the Town review who is responsible for repairing the emergency road and if the Town is found responsible, then maybe add this item as well.
- Town Manager Grady Miller indicated in an article to The Times that the Trailhead would be open in the end of 2017. This would be done by crunching the review time of the Town and J2.

Director Mayer addressed the Commissioners and advised them that we are no longer to discuss the Final Settlement Agreement or the Amendment in a public forum or in private as it is an agreement between MCO and the Town Council. Chair Myers had sent some questions to Director Mayer, who forwarded them to the Town Attorney and the Town Manager. The Town Manager has agreed to let the Town Attorney answer that last question, but that's it. The issue is whether the drop dead date of 2020 or the issuance of a COO anywhere in Adero Canyon, determines when the permanent road will be built.

- First Amendment to the Settlement Agreement with MCO. This is agreement where MCO does not have to design and install temporary utilities in the Trailhead and in return the Town receives free dirt for the Trailhead.

- “Temporary Footpath” to the trailhead that may need to be designed and constructed by the Town. Director Mayer stated that when it was originally discussed that there might be a great deal of time between the road and access and when the Trailhead would be finished. This item would be a staff decision made by the people that attend the meetings with J2.
- Marquee for the Trailhead and the contents. J2 has \$8,500 in the budget for the marquee and the Commissioners would like some input on this item.

AGENDA ITEM #14: CONSIDERATION OF ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Craig made a motion to adjourn at 7:01 p.m., Commissioner Thornton seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

McDowell Mountain Preservation Commission

By: _____
Bill Myers, Chair

Reviewed by: _____
Mark C. Mayer, Director of Community Services

Prepared by: _____
Jennifer Lyons, Executive Assistant

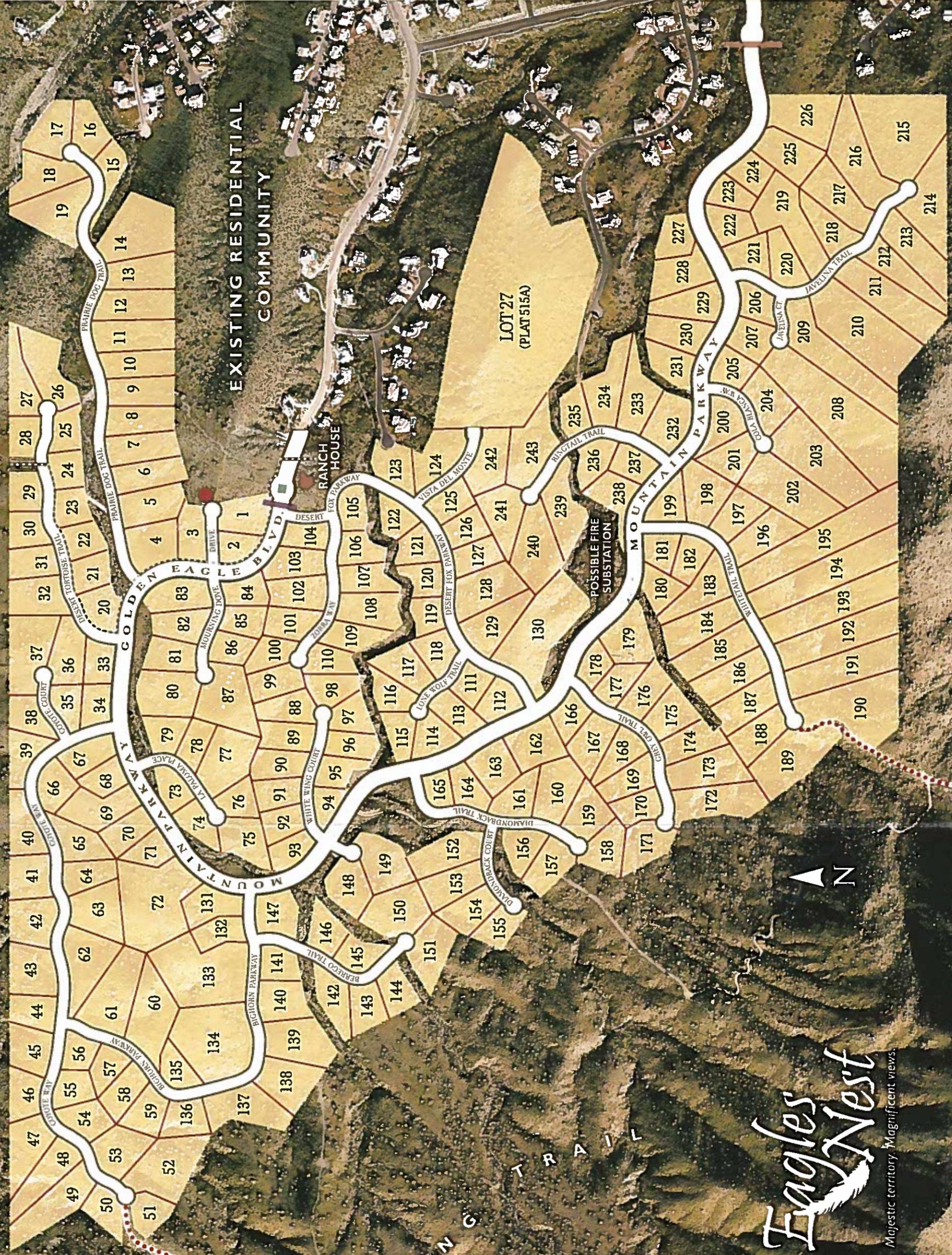
CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the McDowell Mountain Preservation Commission Meeting held on September 27, 2016. I further certify that the meeting as duly called and that a quorum was present.

By: _____
Jennifer Lyons, Executive Assistant

Dated this 17th day of October 2016

McDOWELL MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK



EXISTING RESIDENTIAL
COMMUNITY

LOT 27
(PLAT 515A)

POSSIBLE FIRE
SUBSTATION

S - Z
A - Z
L - Z
M - Z
O - Z
T R A P - T

Eagles Nest

Majestic territory. Magnificent views.

**IMPROVE YOUR
VIEW IN LIFE**

-  Public Trail
-  Water Tank
-  Access Road