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PINAL COUNTY OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS ADVISORY COMMISSION (OS&T)

(PO NUMBER 233374)

Regular Meeting

6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

EOC Room - Building F

135 N. Pinal St., Florence, Arizona

INDEX:

Introduction of New Commissioners: pp. 3-4

Director's Report, pp. 5-10

Old Business:

- a. Discussion/Approval/recommendation on the Regional Trail Logo (OS&T Director), pp. 14-27
- b. Discussion/Approval of the "Guide to Commission Roles, Responsibilities and Opportunities" (OS&T Chairman), pp. 27-31

New Business

- a. Discussion/Election of OS&T Chairman and Vice Chairman pursuant to Article V: Officers and Duties, Section 3.A of the Pinal County Open Space and Trails Advisory Commission Bylaws (OS&T Chairman), pp. 12-14
- b. Discussion/Approval/recommendations on updates to Park Rules (OS&T Director), pp. 31-42
- c. Update on Palo Verde Regional Park (Regional Park #4) Master Plan process (OS&T Director), pp. 42-62
- d. Update on Tortolita Regional Parks Trails (OS&T Director), pp. 62-69

Call to the Commission: pp. 69-72

Discussion of Possible future agenda items: 71-72

Adjournment - OS&T Chairman, pp. 72

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1 D'ABELLA: It is 6 p.m., so I'm going to call the
2 meeting to order. Do roll call. Commissioner Vogler.

3 VOGLER: Present.

4 D'ABELLA: Commissioner Bristow.

5 BRISTOW: Present.

6 D'ABELLA: Commissioner Feliz.

7 FELIZ: Here.

8 D'ABELLA: Vice Chair Johnson.

9 JOHNSON: Here.

10 D'ABELLA: Commissioner Standage.

11 STANDAGE: Here.

12 D'ABELLA: Commissioner Brown.

13 BROWN: Here.

14 D'ABELLA: Commissioner Butler.

15 BUTLER: Present.

16 D'ABELLA: Commissioner Granillo.

17 GRANILLO: Here.

18 D'ABELLA: Commissioner Goff.

19 GOFF: Here.

20 D'ABELLA: And Chair D'Abella is here as well, we
21 have a quorum. Next item on the agenda, I would like our
22 director to introduce our new Commissioners.

23 TAYLOR: Sure. Thanks, Chair D'Abella. First,
24 though, just a quick reminder on our recording system. First
25 of all, Stephanie is out sick, so I am pulling double duty as

1 running the meeting and running the recording. So the good
2 news from our - the lady that helps us with our transcription
3 is that she can hear everybody fine, except for Gordon and me.
4 So - and we know my issue is I'm just too loud, and I'm not
5 sure what Gordon's issue was. So when you speak, you don't
6 have to lean into the microphone, it's pretty sensitive. It
7 typically picks you up from where you're at, unless you're
8 sharing a microphone, and you may just have to move it in
9 between. So don't try to lean into it, that was my problem, I
10 was leaning into the microphone, so. But yes, and we actually
11 - we have two new members today, Patrick Granillo, who was
12 appointed by Supervisor Rios from District 1, and Charlie
13 Goff, who was appointed by Supervisor House in District 5. I
14 got that right, right? Okay. I'm going to give them a second
15 in just a minute to tell us a little bit about themselves, but
16 I also wanted to update the Commission. This was the rollover
17 period from our first initial appointment, so we have half of
18 the Commission that were appointed for two year terms, and
19 half of them that were appointed for four year terms. Those
20 appointed for a two year first term could be reappointed for
21 another four year term. After that initial four year - two
22 year term, so that we then now have - everybody have four year
23 terms, but we have a staggered timing on when people's terms
24 are up. So half of you will be available for reappointment in
25 another couple years, and then it just repeats itself every

1 couple years. So we purposely wrote the bylaws that way so
2 we've never had complete - we try to never have complete
3 turnover of the entire Commission at one point - at one point
4 in time. So, I did want to say that Commissioner Feliz and
5 Commissioner Vogler, Commissioner Brown and Commissioner - or
6 Vice Chair Johnson were all reappointed to full four year
7 terms. Did I get that all correct, I think? Shake your
8 heads. Just say yes. Okay, so I'm going to - who wants to go
9 first? Pat or Charlie?

10 GOFF: Name is technically Charles Goff, but I much
11 prefer Charlie, so if we can keep it that way on everything,
12 except something official. We retired from Indiana as college
13 biology professors and moved to Colorado in about 2000, I
14 guess. Eventually decided that even though we were in
15 Colorado's banana belt, winters go a little cold. So we got a
16 place in 2011 in Gold Canyon and after a couple years of that,
17 we decided to just be fulltime residents, and that was forced
18 a little bit because we sold the place in Colorado. We've
19 gotten pretty involved, I guess, with environmental issues and
20 we - both my wife and I are on the board of SALT, the
21 Superstition Area Land Trust, and we, for the last little over
22 a year, have been co-chairing the Open Space and Trails, the
23 Pinal Partnership Open Space and Trails Committee, and talking
24 with Todd House when this was coming open, we just thought it
25 was kind of a natural to try this as well.

1 D'ABELLA: Welcome.

2 GRANILLO: As you all know, my name is Patrick
3 Granillo. I worked with the Town of Florence for 35 years.
4 20 of those years I put in as Public Works Director. There, I
5 was in charge of water, sewer, sanitation (inaudible). You
6 don't want me to start over, do you?

7 TAYLOR: No.

8 GRANILLO: Good. Also I was a fire captain with the
9 fire department. I served it for 25 years. I've served on
10 the Park Development Board for the Town of Florence, and
11 that's about it. And then in 2002 I retired. And here I am,
12 I got promoted, I guess.

13 D'ABELLA: Well welcome, and thank you for joining
14 our group of Open Space and Trails enthusiasts.

15 GRANILLO: Thank you.

16 D'ABELLA: And just a reminder, when we are in
17 discussion mode, because of the way the minutes are recorded,
18 say your name and just your last name's fine, and then speak
19 so that when they're doing the minutes, they know who's
20 speaking. They get to know people's tones and, but, you know,
21 there's new people and sometimes it's hard to tell, people
22 have similar voices. So I'll probably have to remind
23 everybody more than once as the evening goes on. Okay. Does
24 anybody - Item No. 4, Meeting Action Report from the April 12,
25 2016 meeting, does anybody have any questions or discussion on

1 that? Seeing none, we'll go to Item 5, Call to the Public.
2 This is for information only, this is the time for public
3 comment. Members of the Open Space and Trails Commission may
4 not discuss items that are not on the agenda, therefore action
5 taken as a result of public comment will be limited to
6 directing staff to study the matter, or scheduling the matter
7 for further consideration and decision at a later date.
8 Please note that time, place and manner restrictions may be
9 imposed. Does anybody from the public would like to speak at
10 this time? Seeing none, Item No. 6, Director's Report. Does
11 anybody have any questions about the Director's Report?

12 TAYLOR: Happy to answer any questions.

13 D'ABELLA: Okay. Is there anything you want to talk
14 about in the Director's Report?

15 TAYLOR: There might be a couple items, yes Chair.
16 Just a couple of things I wanted to highlight from the
17 Director's Report. On the Peralta Regional Park, the last
18 bullet, just some early discussions that we've had with the
19 Forest Service and State Land on legalizing Peralta Road. As
20 you might remember from the planning process, that that road,
21 past where the pavement ends, is not a technically legal road
22 as far as State Land is concerned. We don't own right-of-way,
23 and since that is the major transportation road into our
24 proposed regional park, it was one of the items on our to-do -
25 it is one of the items on our to-do list for implementation of

1 Peralta Park, so we've at least explored opening that dialogue
2 with State Land and the Forest Service. The Forest Service
3 has a funding source that we may be able to tap into, it's
4 called the Federal Land Access Program, provides grant money
5 to do just that - provide access to federally-protected lands,
6 which at the end of Peralta Road is the Superstition
7 Wilderness, so we're hoping that that is an opportunity for us
8 to make that happen in partnership with those other agencies.
9 On page 2, on the Arizona National Scenic Trail, just
10 something that doesn't happen very often, but we were able to,
11 if you read the third bullet, we were able to get free labor
12 at a very last minute notice. I received a phone message from
13 the American Conservation Experience folks, said hey we had
14 these guys - this AmeriCorps scheduled for a project at the
15 Tonto Forest. It was just rained out, whatever road that they
16 needed to access their worksite had been washed out in a
17 recent rain, said can you use these folks, feel free. So at
18 first I thought it was an April fool's joke in January, but it
19 was not. I called them back immediately and said, you know,
20 hey is this legitimate? He said yeah, by all means. So we
21 were able to get a pretty good significant amount of volunteer
22 work on the Arizona National Scenic Trail, again in January,
23 for free. Part of that was in partnership with the Arizona
24 Trails Association, as we have a good handle on what needs
25 work, and we knew where we could send them and where the

1 access points would be, without having to do a lot of work -
2 legwork to get to that point. So it was a great, it was a
3 great opportunity all around. So I've asked them if I can get
4 that same deal next year, they haven't replied yet. The next
5 item on the Lost Goldmine Trail on the second bullet there,
6 and I've got a current, even more up to date, some comments on
7 this item. Since the Super Bowl came to Arizona, so about a
8 year and a half ago, we have seen exponential growth in
9 traffic and use at the Cloudview Trailhead, which accesses
10 both the Lost Goldmine Trail and the Hieroglyphic Trail.
11 Hieroglyphic Trail is a Tonto National Forest Trail. The Lost
12 Goldmine Trail is ours, and one we manage. We manage the
13 trailhead. So we've - what happened, we think, is that around
14 the Super Bowl time we got publicized several times in some
15 visitor, online visitor experiences on AZCentral and some
16 other things that highlighted a trail as hey, if you're in the
17 Valley, you're visiting and you want a good experience there's
18 this place and it's pretty close to the Valley. And gave some
19 details. And believe it or not people read that, and since
20 then we've seen the traffic at the trailhead, especially
21 January, a little bit into fall, but mostly January through
22 March explode, and with that some definite parking issues at
23 that location. The parking lot fills up rather quickly,
24 especially on weekends and we've got some spillover onto
25 Cloudview and into the neighborhood and some folks parking on

1 private property; some of those access and use issues. So we
2 knew about this this last fall, we've already started
3 internally talking about some solutions. One of those
4 solutions is to actually stripe that parking lot and do a
5 design on the parking lot and stripe it so that we maximize
6 the space and we don't have people parking like this, and
7 taking up four spots instead of two. But we've also had some
8 recent comments from some neighbors that they would like to
9 see us address that issue further, so we're also meeting
10 internally to see what other kind of solutions might be out
11 there, signage, you know, towing. As Gordon can relate to,
12 this is similar to a problem that we see at San Tan Mountain
13 Regional Park, and maybe some other issues that, you know,
14 we're not even - that I'm not even thinking of. So we'll meet
15 internally, and then we're going to meet with our partners,
16 both the Forest Service, SALT and Supervisor House to discuss
17 some of those potential - I don't know if we'll do a public
18 meeting, it depends on what kind of solutions come out of
19 this, you know, or potential solutions, but you know, we're
20 just looking at things to help alleviate some of the spillover
21 from that, from that use. Or at least try to minimize it and
22 give the neighbors some sense of security that hey, there's a
23 - there is something we can do to address this and there's
24 something you can do, also as a neighbor. So - and we'll keep
25 you up to date as that process goes through. Our goals on

1 striping the thing was to have it done by next fall, in time
2 for the busy season next fall; I don't know what, depending on
3 what comes out of these meetings, what other solutions we'll
4 have and what the timing would look like, but we'll certainly
5 visit that as we go through the process. And then the last
6 item -

7 BROWN: The thing to do - I don't want to read too
8 much into it, but what you didn't say I think was significant.
9 You talked about issues apart from the trail, but the - better
10 usage of the trail hasn't resulted by evidently in damage or
11 trash or vandalism, it's that - I think that's - that is a
12 significant issue.

13 TAYLOR: That's a good thing. No, we - you know, we
14 - what I hear, okay, not so - we don't have a lot of trash
15 issues, a lot of - we don't have a lot of parties, we don't
16 have a lot of after hours use, that kind of thing, that's not
17 - that's what I hear. Now I'm hearing a little bit different
18 things from neighbors, but the folks that I talked to, you
19 know, definitely aren't, you know, aren't consistent in that
20 message. I know when I visit the site and I visit it at
21 different times and different days, I haven't seen a trash or
22 overuse issue within the parking lot footprint. The trail,
23 now we have a great partnership with SALT on maintenance, so
24 no, we haven't seen an overuse issue yet. I will tell you
25 that Hieroglyphic, the one that goes up into the Tonto, is

1 very busy and it attracts, you know groups, small groups that
2 are going up there because it's a pretty easy hike up, it's
3 got something pretty cool at the end, some cultural resources,
4 some, you know, there's actual rock art that you can see, and
5 then a pretty easy hike back down. So that one sees most of
6 the - we think - sees most of the use, and that'll be part of
7 our discussion with the Tonto Forest, so.

8 BUTLER: This is Commissioner Butler, I have a
9 couple questions. Does the County have the ability to expand
10 that parking lot? I don't know how much land (inaudible).

11 TAYLOR: No we do not.

12 BUTLER: Okay. And are you - if you're going to
13 stripe it, will you stripe it so that horse trailers can still
14 park there?

15 TAYLOR: We will make accommodations for horse
16 trailers next to the horse tie-ups.

17 BUTLER: Okay. And I have heard that there's a lot
18 of more trash on the trail.

19 TAYLOR: Yeah, you're the first person that's told
20 me that.

21 BUTLER: Okay.

22 ??: Spoil sport.

23 BUTLER: Sorry.

24 TAYLOR: So, I'm not getting that from our stewards
25 or from the SALT trail folks, and I haven't had any public

1 comments to that effect either. The last item I just wanted
2 to highlight, and not to whine too much, but the last item on
3 the Director's Report is the update on the County's budget.
4 So this next fiscal year is proving to be just as challenging
5 as the past couple of fiscal years, and departments have been
6 asked to submit budgets that are three percent less than the
7 previous year. So just wanted to - everybody to realize we're
8 going to be - you know, we're going to be stretched a little
9 thin. As you all know when we started the departments in two
10 thousand - in fiscal '13-'14, budget was about \$280,000. So
11 over the last two fiscal years we've had a two percent cut, a
12 four percent cut, and now a three percent cut. So what that
13 relates to, in my world, that's about a \$25,000 hit to our
14 budget over the last 15 months, I believe. So while we're not
15 the biggest department, we don't have the biggest budget - 25
16 grand, I will tell you if you want to, if you want to put it
17 project perspective, 25 grand is what I'm paying our
18 consultant to help us map out the Tortolita Trails right now.
19 So that's exact - exactly that much. And a \$25,000 cut would
20 have - would be the total of the two large projects we did
21 last year in Oracle on the tree trimming project, and in
22 Dudleyville on the fence - on the re-fencing on the ballfield.
23 That was about a 25 - between those two, is about 25 grand.
24 So that gives you an idea of project-wise, you know, how that
25 falls in. Now we still, in our budget you will see when, you

1 know, when our budget is printed, our budget will still
2 reflect some of the one time planning money that the Board
3 allocated for these master plans that we're completing, so I'm
4 just talking about the non-one-time money. I will tell you
5 after this fiscal year if we complete the master plan for Palo
6 Verde, that one time money will go away and will no longer be
7 there, so just wanted to put that in project perspective.

8 D'ABELLA: Okay. Does anybody have any further
9 discussion or questions on the Director's Report? Seeing
10 none, Item 7, old business. On a happier note, our trail logo
11 contest entries. Director Taylor, could you give us a
12 background on our new options?

13 TAYLOR: I could, but just - Chair, just a question.
14 Do you want to move new business item (a)?

15 D'ABELLA: I would love to do that.

16 TAYLOR: So that if there are any changes,
17 (inaudible) still have to play musical chairs later, but.

18 D'ABELLA: That would be agreeable to me.

19 TAYLOR: It's up to you.

20 D'ABELLA: Okay. In new business on your agenda,
21 (a) is Discussion/Election of Open Space and Trails Chairman
22 and Vice Chairman pursuant to the Article V: Officers and
23 Duties, Section 3 of our Bylaws. The Pinal County Open Space
24 and Trails Advisory Commission every year has the opportunity
25 to - or you all have the opportunity to become either the

1 Chair or Vice Chair. So I would love to see somebody else
2 take over this position, if they so felt that that was an
3 experience they'd like to have. So I'm open to any
4 discussion, nominations, for somebody who would like to be the
5 Chair of the Pinal County Open Space and Trails Advisory
6 Commission.

7 BUTLER: This is Commissioner Butler, would the
8 current Vice Chairman be interested in taking the Chairman
9 position?

10 JOHNSON: This is Vice Chair Johnson, and actually
11 my challenge remains the same. I wouldn't feel like I could
12 give it the necessary time it requires. That's my particular
13 challenge, and so I apologize for that. I think Gina's doing
14 a remarkable job.

15 D'ABELLA: I'm willing to share the love. It's so
16 quiet, do you hear the crickets.

17 BROWN: Seeing no evidence to the contrary, I'd like
18 to nominate Gina D'Abella for another term.

19 TAYLOR: So we would need a second on that.

20 GOFF: That requires a second. I'm Commissioner
21 Goff, I will second that motion.

22 D'ABELLA: Okay. I would be agreeable to serve
23 another year, if there are no other Commissioners wanting to
24 take that appointment. Seeing none, we have a first and
25 second. All in favor.

1 COLLECTIVE: Aye.

2 D'ABELLA: Opposed? Motion passes. Okay. For Vice
3 Chair, do I hear any nominations for Vice Chair? Can I hear a
4 nomination for Vice Chair? Okay, can I nominate somebody? Am
5 I allowed to nominate somebody? Okay, I nominate Mary Johnson
6 for Vice Chair.

7 BROWN: I'll second that.

8 D'ABELLA: If she wants the appointment.

9 JOHNSON: Yes, I think Vice Chair is more manageable
10 for me, so I'm willing to continue with you, Gina, as well.
11 That'd be great.

12 D'ABELLA: Okay. So we have a first, a second, any
13 discussion? Seeing none, all in favor?

14 COLLECTIVE: Aye.

15 D'ABELLA: Opposed? Motion passes. Okay. Thank
16 you for the opportunity again for one more year. Getting back
17 to Item No. 7, Old Business. We, at our last quarterly
18 meeting had the opportunity to see some beautiful renditions
19 of other's visions for our logo on our trails, and basically
20 everybody had liked some of that, but wanted a little bit more
21 work done, and Director Taylor took upon himself to
22 incorporate more artist renderings. Do you want to discuss
23 that?

24 TAYLOR: Happy to, Chair. So as you recall in
25 January we had some submissions for a trail logo design and I

1 asked all the Commissioners to supply me with their favorites,
2 and you guys - so you all supplied me with your favorites,
3 voted on a particular design, and also what features you liked
4 from each of those, and what made those stick out. So what I
5 did from those - that group of logos, was I eliminated all the
6 ones that did not get any votes. So the only ones that went
7 forward were the ones that got a vote. And I took that and
8 the list of your positive attributes, what you had identified
9 within that, and we're fortunate in our Public Works
10 Department, we actually have somebody in the planning section
11 that's a graphic artist, which I didn't know until after I
12 started asking around, and so I took that information to her
13 and - after I asked to borrow her - and took that information
14 to her and said here's what I've got, here's what they, you
15 know, here's what they like; here's the designs that, you
16 know, that were submitted; here's the attributes, and she was
17 nice enough to whittle that down into what you see in front of
18 you, which are these six design logos, or draft logos. So, my
19 hope is we can, you know, it'd be great if we could choose
20 one, but I'm not naïve enough to think we're going to to get
21 to that point, but if, if we have to, if we have to whittle it
22 down again to get to, you know, two or whatever that I can
23 provide to her and we can refine those for the next meeting,
24 that's fine too. So happy to -

25 D'ABELLA: Can you scroll up so that everybody could

1 see the last two?

2 TAYLOR: Sure. You want the last two?

3 D'ABELLA: Yeah. Anybody have any thoughts they'd
4 like to share?

5 FELIZ: Commissioner Feliz, I'm kind of partial to
6 the top left, personally.

7 BROWN: I am too. The (inaudible).

8 FELIZ: Yeah.

9 BROWN: Yeah, I am too.

10 GOFF: Commissioner Goff, just to muddy the water.

11 Actually I like the upper left quite well, but it was my
12 second favorite. My favorite is the middle left. I like the
13 simplicity of it, and yet having the shape of the County.

14 D'ABELLA: Okay, I'm going to muddy the water even a
15 little bit more. They're all fabulous, and I really
16 appreciate all the work she put into this because they all are
17 contenders. My only concern is sharing a specific activity,
18 so if there's hikers and bikers, then maybe, you know, people
19 that are equestrians might feel left out, or the OHV people,
20 you know, if it's a motorized vehicle trail, and so that's why
21 I kind of prefer the bottom left one that you can't see right
22 now because - or is it - yeah, I think the bottom left.
23 Right. Or even the top left - the top one that was first
24 appreciated, without the hiker and biker. If there's some way
25 to render, you know, because it does show the features we

1 talked about at the last meeting; it shows you know, some
2 Pinal County features. I don't know where that mountain
3 particularly is, but it shows a mountain and plants, etc., so
4 I like that, I just would feel that some people might - some
5 user groups might feel left out.

6 JOHNSON: This is Vice Chair Johnson, I'm with Gina.
7 I really like the upper left and lower left, those were my top
8 two. I even like the middle one, but I must gravitate towards
9 colors is what I'm assuming, but without the uses in there, as
10 well. That was my position. So they're all really good and
11 have different things, but if I was to narrow it down to my
12 top two, that would be my choices.

13 D'ABELLA: Anybody else have any other ideas?
14 Suggestions? Changes? Comments?

15 ??: The middle two, there's a white background, I
16 like the background on the upper left. That does delineate
17 the (inaudible).

18 D'ABELLA: Aren't those the Pinal County colors too,
19 Director Taylor, aren't they similar to the -

20 TAYLOR: It is close.

21 D'ABELLA: I'm trying to remember the -

22 TAYLOR: The, you know, the County logo doesn't use
23 -

24 D'ABELLA: Oh, there it is.

25 TAYLOR: Yeah, the County logo doesn't use the brown

1 that you see, we use kind of a green and blue if I -

2 D'ABELLA: Yeah, it's -

3 TAYLOR: I don't have a color one in front of me,
4 but -

5 D'ABELLA: It's on the letterhead.

6 TAYLOR: Well, we always internally say it's from
7 North Carolina, but.

8 BROWN: Gina got me to thinking about it, and had
9 another thought, if it's possible. Would be - I think the
10 (inaudible) is distinctive, the colors that can be recognized
11 immediately, and but I - the point's well taken as to
12 excluding somebody. But empty trails aren't as impactful to
13 me as a trail getting used. Maybe we could add a horse, you
14 know, or add somebody, you know, rather than taking out the
15 hikers and the bike, maybe we can work in an equestrian kind
16 of an activity or something, to where it's the idea of the
17 trail being used, you know.

18 D'ABELLA: I know the bottom right one that you
19 can't see right now had a lot of different user groups, but it
20 almost looked like it was too much.

21 BROWN: Yeah, it was kind of busy.

22 D'ABELLA: Any other comments or suggestions?

23 VOGLER: This is Commissioner Vogler. Is there any
24 wording that you could put in there, like we're here for you,
25 or something that you could convey -

1 D'ABELLA: Or even -

2 VOGLER: Just an announcement this is a regional
3 park (inaudible).

4 D'ABELLA: Or even if it's a - what type of trail it
5 is. I don't know, it might complicate things, whether it's
6 motorized or non-motorized trail?

7 TAYLOR: Well Chair and Commissioners, we were
8 trying to keep this simple and try to keep it as, you know, so
9 that we can use this system-wide once we got to that point, so
10 both motorized/non-motorized, but regardless, that it's a
11 designation that this is a County regional trail. So that's
12 what our thought was internally is to keep it simple. And it
13 does - you know, having - I worked on a project like this for
14 a state commission that I was on that also had the same issue
15 - did the same exercise on a trail decal, and they had the
16 same discussion you guys are having. We agonized over the
17 user piece, and they ended up putting multiple users on there,
18 but it is, it's hikers, bikers, equestrians, and OHV, all on
19 the same decal.

20 BROWN: No balloonists?

21 TAYLOR: I'm sorry?

22 BROWN: No balloonists?

23 TAYLOR: No balloonists. No.

24 D'ABELLA: Yeah, and the rock climbers and
25 photographers and dark sky people. Okay. So what I've heard

1 so far from everybody is they prefer the logos to the left,
2 which narrows it down to three at least. Am I hearing
3 correctly? Okay. So is anybody interested in any of the item
4 - any of the logos on the right? So if you are, speak up or
5 forever hold your peace. At least the three logos that we've
6 narrowed it down to the three logos on the left. That's an
7 accomplishment. Okay, so based on that, do we want to have
8 another rendering with user groups, or do we want to select
9 one of these and possibly add one or two users?

10 TAYLOR: You know what would be really fantastic on
11 - from our point of view, if you could narrow that to two, and
12 then we could do a - each of those with and without user
13 groups.

14 D'ABELLA: Okay. That sounds fair. The ones on the
15 far left - obviously the bottom two are similar, except for
16 color, and obviously if we're going to be adding user groups,
17 then that part doesn't matter. So does that - anybody have a
18 preference between the white background and the colored
19 background?

20 FELIZ: Commissioner Feliz, I prefer the color.

21 JOHNSON: Vice Chair Johnson, I prefer the color.

22 D'ABELLA: Okay. I think we've narrowed it down to
23 two.

24 TAYLOR: The top and the bottom?

25 D'ABELLA: The top and the bottom left. Is

1 everybody okay with that? Narrow it down to that?

2 BUTLER: This is Commissioner Butler. When I look
3 at the hikers on the oval, and compared to the hikers on the
4 middle one, they look like they're falling over, I think, to
5 fit them into the oval. I don't really care for that look.

6 TAYLOR: Commissioner Butler, it actually looked
7 like space men to me.

8 BUTLER: Yeah, well that's -

9 TAYLOR: We can work on that.

10 BUTLER: Okay. Don't really like the tipped over
11 affect and, of course, it should be an equestrian instead of a
12 bicyclist, but. No, I'm just kidding.

13 TAYLOR: I would disagree with that.

14 BUTLER: I know you would.

15 D'ABELLA: So, you know, we could even make the oval
16 less oval to fit, you know, maybe make the hikers a little
17 smaller and add an equestrian, or whatever.

18 BUTLER: No, I was just kidding.

19 D'ABELLA: Okay.

20 BUTLER: Maybe don't two hikers, maybe one hiker.

21 TAYLOR: We'll I'm not going to do the creative
22 part, I'm going to give - the young lady I'm working with is
23 Gina in our Public Works Department, and I will give Gina the
24 thoughts that you guys have expressed, and we'll take those
25 two, we'll polish those up, one with users, one without users,

1 and that will be -

2 D'ABELLA: Great.

3 TAYLOR: Everybody okay with that?

4 GOFF: Commissioner Goff. One additional question.

5 I assume we'll have trails that - some trails that are
6 available to all four classes of users?

7 TAYLOR: Yes. So typically motorized trails
8 depending on the motorized trail, Commissioner Goff, so
9 typically motorized trails are open to other forms of - I mean
10 if a bicyclist or an equestrian wants to use an OHV trail, if
11 it's a long distance type of trail, not like a track-type
12 setting, so long distance trail, those are typically open to
13 all users. Might be designed specifically for an OHV, but
14 would be open to all.

15 GOFF: Do we have any trails anticipated that will
16 not be open to the other three classes?

17 TAYLOR: None that I can think of at this point.

18 GOFF: It's relevant, I think, if you're using this
19 as a broad spectrum logo, where you go with it, but - and I
20 assume the restriction to what type of trail it is, what kind
21 of use is available would be on some other placard, or on
22 presumably the same or a different post.

23 TAYLOR: Exactly. A jeep with a red circle and a
24 line is typically what you see.

25 D'ABELLA: Okay. So hikers, bikers and horses are

1 very common in other trail logos that I've seen, so that's
2 most likely those three uses will always be on the trail logo,
3 or the trail use. Not to be on the logo, but the trail use.

4 TAYLOR: Yes.

5 D'ABELLA: Okay. Any other comments?

6 ??: I have a question. Would you offend the bird
7 watcher people if you don't put their little logo on or, to
8 that effect?

9 ??: That was our point -

10 D'ABELLA: Yeah, because then -

11 ??: Picture taking or -

12 D'ABELLA: Right, or the, you know, somebody who
13 rock climbs or whatever, you know, yeah that was our only
14 concern - or my only concern was that if you put three, then
15 you're excluding the other however many there are user groups.
16 Typically I know when I've gone hiking, there's usually
17 something on the trail telling you who has the yield and
18 right-of-way, and they always show a bike, a hiker and a
19 horse, meaning the horse is number one and the bike has to
20 yield to the - or the hiker has to yield to the horse, and the
21 biker has to yield to everybody, you know, so I think that's
22 pretty common. People are used to seeing that, but you're
23 right, you know, how many user groups are there that might get
24 offended.

25 BROWN: Well we (inaudible) down the left-hand the

1 bird watchers and bird watchers with binoculars versus bird
2 watchers with rifle scopes, you know.

3 TAYLOR: I don't think our logo's going to have
4 enough room.

5 BROWN: I know, what I'm saying is that I
6 personally, I don't think we have to show them all. And it
7 might be a personal prejudice, I don't think we do need to
8 show a jeep, you know, I think if it shows a trail and jeeps
9 are allowed, they'll use it, you know?

10 TAYLOR: I'll let you guys discuss that when we get
11 the next group of logos in. That'll be the toughest part of
12 the discussions.

13 JOHNSON: One last question, sorry. Versus logos.
14 Could you just put the statement, multi-use trails? But that
15 won't cover the gamut, will it, or does it?

16 TAYLOR: It would not.

17 JOHNSON: That's what I was afraid of. Okay.

18 STANDAGE: What if you had - Commissioner Standage -
19 what if you had multi-use as a tag under that left side. But
20 then if it's motorized, that would be a different tag. That
21 would separate kind of quiet versus noise.

22 JOHNSON: Be a separate screen. Two screens.

23 STANDAGE: Yes. Separate screens, separate
24 printing, correct.

25 BROWN: Yeah, I like that. I like that idea.

1 STANDAGE: Well this is for at the trailheads,
2 correct?

3 TAYLOR: No, this would be at the trailheads, I
4 mean, picture this, picture this logo everywhere. It would be
5 for marking the trails, obviously, your typical carsonite
6 posts all along the trail, if it was a regional trail. But it
7 would also be in brochures, marketing material, anything that
8 went along with trying to promote the regional trail network
9 and regional trail system, that's what this is kind of
10 designed around.

11 D'ABELLA: So to designate motorized versus non-
12 motorized, that would be something at the trailhead anyway.

13 TAYLOR: Yes.

14 D'ABELLA: Yeah, so there would be like a red circle
15 with a slash, for example, for motorized, saying no this is
16 not what that is. So just to simplify it, one logo for
17 everything, and if it's not - if it's a non-motorized vehicle
18 trail, then there'll be something at the trailhead, and most
19 likely in our brochures we could do that same logo next to
20 anything that's - any trail that's not motorized vehicle
21 access.

22 TAYLOR: Correct. And really, staff's perspective
23 on this and what we were looking for originally is, you know,
24 something again, as a trail marker, but again marketing
25 material and identification of the trail system. So, you

1 know, the trails that - you know, the regional trails that I'm
2 familiar with and those kind of trail logos, most of them
3 don't have a user on - in the logo. Any user. So the Arizona
4 - and I'll use the Arizona Trail Association as an example,
5 you know, it's a national scenic trail. It is - there is
6 nothing on there that says, you know, pictures a hiker, a
7 mountain biker or equestrian or anything else. That's in
8 other materials somewhere else. The logo designates it as -
9 highlights it as the trail. So.

10 BRISTOW: Madam Chairwoman, Bud Bristow. We're
11 spending so much time on this on several meetings, just trying
12 to select a logo. I think it would be good if we could make a
13 decision on it and not to try to write regulations into the
14 logo itself, but just have one logo and then everything else
15 as far as this issue of who should and who cannot, that could
16 be a separate item, but if we had one. So with that in mind,
17 I'd make a motion that we accept - it's not on the screen
18 right now, but we accept our logo the bottom left. And if you
19 like color, it'll be the top left.

20 D'ABELLA: Okay.

21 GOFF: That was a motion, correct? Commissioner
22 Goff, I'll second that motion.

23 D'ABELLA: Any discussion? We have a first and a
24 second? Okay. So but I - but there's two logos in that
25 motion.

1 BRISTOW: I said if you like color. Let's just
2 forget the last part and just say the bottom left.

3 D'ABELLA: The bottom left.

4 BRISTOW: Yes.

5 D'ABELLA: Okay, there's a motion on the floor, and
6 second for that bottom left. All in favor say aye.

7 COLLECTIVE: Aye.

8 D'ABELLA: Opposed?

9 FELIZ: No.

10 BROWN: No.

11 D'ABELLA: Okay, so now I need to count how many
12 ayes and nos. There's two nos, correct?

13 TAYLOR: Yeah, I think I captured that.

14 Commissioner Feliz and Commissioner Brown as nos and everybody
15 else as an aye? Okay.

16 D'ABELLA: Okay, motion passes.

17 TAYLOR: Okay, great.

18 D'ABELLA: We picked a logo.

19 TAYLOR: Good job.

20 D'ABELLA: Okay, moving on to Item (b). Hopefully
21 you all had the opportunity to look at the latest rendition of
22 the guide to Commission Roles, Responsibilities and
23 Opportunities. Does anybody have any questions or discussions
24 on that?

25 TAYLOR: Madam Chair, just so - because we have a

1 couple of a new members. New member as you look at this,
2 think of this as your orientation sheet. This is an internal
3 document that we would use to kind of go through with the
4 Commissioner - new Commissioners, and others that may be
5 endorsing what the Commission does and outlining what their
6 roles, responsibilities are, and opportunities for being on
7 the Commission. And this is the clean version of Commissioner
8 Butler's markup copy from the last meeting.

9 D'ABELLA: All made it on one page.

10 TAYLOR: Told you it would make it on one page.

11 D'ABELLA: Very impressive. Okay, does everybody
12 like -

13 BRISTOW: Madam Chairwoman, I have a comment.

14 D'ABELLA: Yes.

15 BRISTOW: This memo that was - that you put out
16 concerning Senate Bill 1306, that was a history of the events
17 of how, the genesis for organization of this Advisory
18 Commission. I think that that's a real important item so that
19 new people coming in, especially, have an understanding of how
20 far it's come and why we came to this, and also the groups of
21 people that have contributed to it in the past. And so that
22 we don't lose that, I would ask that we try to take those
23 different items, beginning back in 1997, and see if we can't
24 build some kind of a little history and put in the package as
25 sort of a orientation program for new Commissioners, and

1 perhaps for old Commissioners like us at two years, that we
2 can reread occasionally, so that we have a better grasp of
3 where we've been and where we're going, and maybe how we get
4 there, even.

5 D'ABELLA: Thank you for that suggestion. I know
6 our Open Space and Trails Master Plan is a very large
7 document, and I know there's a little bit history in the Open
8 Space and Trails Master Plan itself too. So some of the
9 history of events that occurred all the way back to 1997
10 leading up to that, like the - I think in 2002 or '03, we had
11 the SCORP study, we had master planning process through the
12 comprehensive planning process and things like that, that I
13 think is said also in our - the Open Space and Trails Master
14 Plan as a hist - you know, there's some background in there.

15 TAYLOR: Chair? Chair D'Abella?

16 D'ABELLA: Yes.

17 TAYLOR: Can I make a suggestion.

18 D'ABELLA: Yes.

19 TAYLOR: That sounds like a separate item that could
20 come back at a later date for discussion, as opposed to this
21 particular document. That there is additional work that the
22 Commission thinks that staff needs to do in the orientation
23 packet, and summarizing that - the information that I provide,
24 that's provided, then we can have that discussion; but it may
25 be better served, discussion-wise, as a separate item, as

1 opposed to trying to modify this document, which you guys
2 worked on for a while.

3 BRISTOW: Madam Chair, Commissioner Bristow. Yeah,
4 I didn't want to try to rewrite this, that wasn't the
5 objective, but the objective, I think, is to build us a
6 history that's available to everyone, just as you did in this
7 memo, and I would think it more than just Kent's and his staff
8 would want to do this job, that the Commission itself,
9 especially people that have been working on it for ten years,
10 15 years like you, for example, and Cindy and the past
11 chairman, etc., that that would be very appropriate to have.
12 At least we would have a history of the Commission and how we
13 came to be, and what direction we're trying to go.

14 D'ABELLA: Okay. Well I'd be more than happy to
15 provide what you're seeing as probably a version that I
16 started with, and I've expanded on that. I'd be more than
17 happy to provide that to staff and maybe they could work on
18 summarizing the history of events that took place for the new,
19 for the new Commissioner packet?

20 TAYLOR: Happy to.

21 D'ABELLA: And - so does that sound fair?

22 BRISTOW: Mm hm.

23 D'ABELLA: Okay. So as far as the Guide to
24 Commissioner's Roles, Responsibilities and Opportunities
25 holding its own, do we hear a motion - can I hear a motion to

1 approve it as written, to be given to the new Commissioners in
2 their packet?

3 STANDAGE: Madam Chair?

4 D'ABELLA: Yes.

5 STANDAGE: Wayne Standage, make a motion to accept
6 this so it can go into a packet.

7 BRISTOW: Commissioner Bristow, second.

8 D'ABELLA: All in favor?

9 COLLECTIVE: Aye.

10 D'ABELLA: Motion passes. Thank you. Okay, back to
11 new business. Going - we're skipping (a) to (b). We're
12 looking at the updates to the Park Rules that were provided to
13 you in your packet. Has everybody had the opportunity to look
14 at that? There was some -

15 TAYLOR: I have a presentation.

16 D'ABELLA: Thank you.

17 TAYLOR: But I have to get there first, so bear with
18 me a second. Where did it go? So thank you Commissioner - or
19 Chairman D'Abella. Yes, just want to give you a little
20 history of why this is - why we're bringing this before you
21 now. So in 2013 when the department was first created, one of
22 the first tasks I - that we had to address were some outdated
23 park ordinances. We had some outdated park ordinances, they
24 were from the, near as we can tell, sometime in the 70s, and
25 really didn't cover our existing park inventory very well,

1 didn't cover some of the new challenges that we had with our
2 parks, and really had no look towards the future. So we ended
3 up working on developing some park rules. We used both
4 Maricopa County and Pima County as models for how we laid
5 those out. We really tried to be with our Park Rules, you
6 notice they're pretty brief. There not a lot of verbiage, and
7 that was intentional. We really wanted these to be as simple
8 as possible. You know, one of the, you know, the downside of
9 doing rules is you can overregulate and over rule yourself to
10 where nobody can understand what's going on with your rules.
11 So - but we also knew when we did this, and when we took it to
12 the Board, we knew at that time that we didn't address trails
13 and trailheads. We purposely left them out of that discussion
14 because we - at that time we just weren't sure how we wanted
15 to include them. Pima County uses a set of rules for their
16 parks, and a separate one for the trails and trailheads and
17 then - so we - and we really weren't sure that was the model
18 we wanted to use. We weren't sure what kind of request we
19 were going to get, you know, on our trailheads especially,
20 because most of our trailheads, at least the Arizona Trail
21 Trailheads were brand new, and so we purposely left them out
22 of that discussion. So since that time, we have had an
23 increased amount of questions and requests for using the
24 trailheads, for specific things and specific projects, or the
25 specific events. We've had specific requests for using the

1 trails for different things. So we knew because of that, we
2 didn't really have any rules to go by, so it was kind of, we
3 were doing things kind of off the cuff on those, on those
4 requests the best we could; but we really wanted to be able to
5 include them or have some kind of guidance as far as park
6 rules on the use on those trails and trailheads. So, in
7 conversations with our attorney, you know, again, keep it -
8 trying to keep it as simple as possible. What we, what we
9 determined to do, and what's in your - what you see in front
10 of you, is just add a definition of what a County park is to
11 our Park Rules. So this - the definition you see in front of
12 you actually include - now includes trails, trailheads, and
13 certain open space areas that we would manage, to incorporate
14 our Park Rules, okay, to those locations. And then what we
15 would do is we we'd publish a list of parks, trails and
16 trailheads that we actually own. So - and I've got a sample
17 of that if you want to see it. That would allow us to add and
18 subtract at any time we bring something into an inventory, or
19 we reduce our inventory, we would just change the list, we
20 would post it on the website, and we wouldn't have to change
21 our rules. So rules changes which require both your approval
22 on the recommendation and our Board approval, is a quite
23 lengthy process, so what we're thinking again, keep it simple
24 that we don't have to go through, you know, great pains to
25 make minor changes in our Park Rules. And then while we were

1 at it, we noticed a couple of things that we thought we could
2 take advantage of during this time and address. One of them
3 was drones, and so we added those to the flying aircraft
4 particular rule, and then clarified some language on pack
5 animals, because again, we're including the trails and
6 trailheads in this - in the rules. So what staff is looking
7 for at this point is we would ask you, you know, to forward
8 these changes with a positive recommendation to the Board of
9 Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors, we will take that to
10 them that they would be the final approving body on these.

11 D'ABELLA: Thank you. Is there any -

12 BUTLER: Madam Chair.

13 D'ABELLA: Yes?

14 BUTLER: This is Commissioner Butler. Before we
15 look at this for forwarding, I would like to suggest that I
16 could provide staff a few little editing things which would
17 make the grammar a little more proper. For instance, in
18 Section 4, Public or Commercial Activities, it says it shall
19 be unlawful to conduct any activity outside blah blah blah.
20 Then if you read the top again, it shall be unlawful to
21 posting, placing or distributing advertising materials. Where
22 I would rather see post, place or distribute advertising
23 materials. So I would like to offer to make these suggestions
24 and possibly come back at the next meeting then and look at
25 this again, if that timing works.

1 TAYLOR: Well I guess I would ask how many
2 suggestions do you have?

3 BUTLER: I, I didn't take the time to go through it
4 all. I noticed several things on the way through. So -

5 D'ABELLA: But they're purely grammatical.

6 BUTLER: Yeah, yeah.

7 D'ABELLA: They're not content related.

8 GOFF: Commissioner Goff. I found, in fact I did
9 not make that change, though I did see it and struggled with
10 whether to do the I-N-G, but I have four rather simple
11 editorial changes. I think it would benefit by being cleaned
12 up just a little bit, though. I might say I'm rather
13 impressed with it, but if you take that much time, why not
14 polish it just a little bit. And from my standpoint, I don't
15 know if you wanted it absolutely clean when this body passes
16 it. At SALT just last night in a Board meeting, we passed
17 some bylaws changes giving the secretary the authority to do
18 editorial changes would then be circulated to see if there's
19 any objections, and I would find something like that
20 acceptable here as well, if you're willing to expedite the
21 process.

22 D'ABELLA: So in other words we could have a motion
23 to approve the recommended - motion to approve the Park Rules
24 as presented with minor grammatical corrections?

25 GOFF: Pending editorial and grammatical -

1 BROWN: I'd like to ask a question - two questions
2 of Kent. One, what are the chances if we go through and
3 polish everything up and make sure all the I's are dotted, and
4 the I-N-G's are in place, of that going through unaltered by
5 the Board of Supervisors?

6 TAYLOR: Commissioner Brown, I can't answer that.

7 BROWN: The point of the question is is this
8 something that would automatically be done at the Supervisor
9 level anyway?

10 TAYLOR: No, these have already been approved by the
11 Supervisors, in their existing form, so this has already been
12 vetted publicly through the process three years ago.

13 BROWN: Okay.

14 TAYLOR: In its existing form, without the
15 definition.

16 BROWN: Okay. Then yeah, then we are - the other
17 question is when did remote control airplanes, model air -
18 remote control model airplanes become drones, you know?

19 TAYLOR: Well, we just added drone -

20 BROWN: No, no, it was just a verbiage. What used
21 to be known as a model airplane or a remote control airplane,
22 or radio controlled airplane, is now a drone.

23 TAYLOR: We tried to be proactive because I will
24 guarantee you we will have that question.

25 D'ABELLA: Okay, just to simplify -

1 TAYLOR: Commissioner - or Chairman D'Abella, so in
2 discussions with our attorney, unless you can give me specific
3 changes to the docu - to those doc - to the document tonight,
4 that's not something that we could do in between - you know,
5 the staff would be able to do just on general direction
6 between now and your next meeting.

7 D'ABELLA: So those four suggestions, Commissioner
8 Goff, do the include the two I-N-G's, and what were the other
9 two?

10 GOFF: I have a sheet that I can pass onto him. I
11 did notice the one that Commissioner Butler mentioned, which
12 would make it five. And I thought I went through it fairly
13 carefully, so I've got it very specifically Section 3(b),
14 change make to making - I'm sorry making to make. Section
15 4(a) - I'll give you the sheet.

16 TAYLOR: Well I - yeah, but I just want to make sure
17 I'm following you as you go along.

18 GOFF: Section 4 -

19 TAYLOR: Section 3 of 3.1(b)?

20 GOFF: (b). Engage in noisy conduct. Operating
21 generators, remoters [sic], operating radios, or make loud and
22 blah blah blah, and make is I think is the appropriate in the
23 context, and I didn't put the rest of it in there.

24 TAYLOR: Okay.

25 GOFF: Strictly at editorial. Section 4(a), conduct

1 any activity outside the individual park, activities
2 (inaudible) or that require the - or that require and in the
3 context, it should be require not requiring. Section 6(h), I
4 think better verbiage would be the department may impose
5 conditions on the conduct of any activity in order to protect
6 the area.

7 BUTLER: Director Taylor, I thought this morning you
8 indicated you didn't want to spend the time at the meeting
9 doing this.

10 TAYLOR: Well that's why I asked you how many you
11 had.

12 BUTLER: Well, that's why I didn't go through it
13 because I was - I understood we weren't going to do it.

14 TAYLOR: It's up to you, Commissioners.

15 D'ABELLA: So if it's just changing a few I-N-G's, I
16 personally I see no problem taking those suggestions tonight
17 and then -

18 TAYLOR: It's up the Commission, the Chair and the
19 Commission.

20 D'ABELLA: Okay, so you mentioned three, and you had
21 the two that you mentioned.

22 TAYLOR: But I think what Commissioner Butler says
23 is she's got more. Is what I'm hearing.

24 BUTLER: I noticed things on the way through, I
25 didn't go back and write them down because I understood we

1 wouldn't be doing it tonight.

2 TAYLOR: I apologize for that error in
3 communication. That's why I wanted to know how many you had.
4 But there's a difference between - I mean if there's 30
5 changes, I don't want to do that tonight. If there's six
6 changes and they're pretty simple changes, then I think we
7 can. But it's totally up to you guys how you want to handle
8 it.

9 BUTLER: Well I'm not prepared because I didn't - I
10 understood we wouldn't do it.

11 BRISTOW: Madam Chairman, Commissioner Bristow.
12 Isn't it possible for you to make not editorial changes, but
13 grammatical changes? You can't drop I-N-G's or things like
14 that in a rule?

15 TAYLOR: The problem is, is once you start changing
16 language, somebody might see that as strictly grammatical, and
17 to another person, oh no that changes the meaning. And so -
18 and then we'd have to circulate it for the Commission to
19 actually go through it and say oh yeah, okay, I'm fine with
20 that. And so now we're having an approval of a document which
21 is outside of the public meeting, and so I would not be
22 comfortable with that.

23 BRISTOW: Yeah, I understand. Madam Chairwoman, I
24 would move then that we go ahead and let the Commission offer
25 their suggestions to Kent, and let's take up approval of this,

1 then, at the next meeting after he's reviewed it and redrafted
2 it as suggested, or if he agrees with it, I guess, then we can
3 review it and hopefully in total and final.

4 BROWN: Okay, if I understand that right, I would
5 agree with it, because I think what I heard was two kind of
6 different things. One was specifying this, this and this, and
7 the other from Commissioner Butler was this needs a review and
8 edit. So if that review and edit could take place and be
9 offered back at the next meeting, and that would be agreeable
10 to staff, I would say that - rather than say okay, we're gonna
11 limit it to these many, because what I heard from Commissioner
12 Butler was it needs a review.

13 TAYLOR: Yeah, staff would like those prior to the
14 next meeting so that I can (inaudible).

15 BROWN: No, no, well they would be back to the
16 Commission in revised form by the next meeting.

17 TAYLOR: Correct.

18 BROWN: That's the way I understood it, right?

19 BRISTOW: That's the way it was stated, yes.

20 D'ABELLA: Okay, so I will have to say when I need
21 something edited, Commissioner Butler is my go-to person.
22 She's an excellent editor. So does everybody feel comfortable
23 with that, then? Okay, so then we will, within the next week
24 or do we want more time than that?

25 BUTLER: May I have two, it's the end of tax season.

1 D'ABELLA: Okay. So within the next couple weeks -

2 TAYLOR: Within two weeks would be acceptable to
3 staff.

4 D'ABELLA: Okay. So we will then table the approval
5 of the park rules for the -

6 BRISTOW: No, Madam Chairwoman we wouldn't table, we
7 would go ahead and just pass that - or vote on the motion to
8 ask that it be brought back. If we table it, we have to bring
9 it back off the table. It's kind of an involved process.

10 D'ABELLA: Okay, so motion to make the corrections
11 within the next two weeks, and then bring it to our next
12 quarterly meeting for approval.

13 BRISTOW: Yes.

14 D'ABELLA: Okay.

15 TAYLOR: Madam Chair, it's really just a
16 continuation of the item to review until the next meeting.

17 D'ABELLA: Thank you.

18 TAYLOR: So it really - yeah, so it's motion to
19 continue until the next meeting to consider this agenda item.

20 D'ABELLA: Do we have a motion to continue?

21 ??: Didn't Bud make that?

22 D'ABELLA: Did you make that motion to -

23 BRISTOW: Yes, that was the motion I made.

24 BROWN: I'll second that.

25 D'ABELLA: Second, all in favor?

1 COLLECTIVE: Aye.

2 D'ABELLA: Opposed? Okay, motion passes. Director
3 Taylor, would you like to update us on the Palo Verde Regional
4 Park Master Planning Process?

5 TAYLOR: Yes. Chair D'Abella, yes I would actually.
6 So what I'm going to do is I'm going to run - I'm going to
7 really - well not quickly - I'm going to run through a
8 presentation that was given at our public meeting, or second
9 public meeting for Palo Verde Regional Park on March 31st. So
10 for those Commissioners that were at the meeting, you may
11 snooze or do whatever else you would like to do as I go
12 through this. So a very well attended meeting in Maricopa at
13 their Copper Sky Recreation Center. We had 70-plus
14 individuals that attended the meeting. So just the
15 background, kind of the background of what we've, you know,
16 how we got to this point. On the left-hand side on the map
17 you'll see the highlighted area, that's the regional park that
18 we're looking at. We're calling that Palo Verde because it
19 includes the Palo Verde Mountains. It's basically the BLM
20 property that stretches from Highway 238 to the north. And I
21 have a pointer for that, so Highway 238 at the north, all the
22 way to I-8 on the south. And it's approximately 21,000 acres
23 of BLM property that encompasses that planning area. This
24 again, this was identified as a future regional park within
25 the Open Space and Trails Master Plan that was approved in

1 2007. It was also a part of our comprehensive plan which was
2 approved in 2009. So that's a close-up view of the study
3 area, and it does include a small portion of BLM property on
4 the north side of 238. So where we've been in the process,
5 where we're at right now, we held a - when we - back in the
6 fall, we contracted with the EPG group to be our consultants
7 on this project. We went through some data gathering stages.
8 What you see there on that particular slide is the numerous
9 maps and layers, GIS layers that we've developed in our park
10 planning process, and this includes things like power line and
11 utility corridors, digital resources, slope analysis, roads -
12 existing roads and trails, soil analysis and other things that
13 we use within the planning process to help us determine where
14 activities, recreational activities can be developed and where
15 they can't, and where it makes sense to develop and where it
16 may not make sense to develop. In December, we had our - I'll
17 back up - those maps were what we presented at our first
18 public open house in December, and we got feedback and
19 comments from residents and interested citizens on those maps.
20 Again, trying to find out if we missed anything or if there
21 was other information that was pertinent to our planning
22 process. So after - as part of that initial public meeting,
23 we did what we call a dot exercise, which is a real simple,
24 you come to the open house, you get a stack of dots, and it's
25 like voting in Chicago. So you get some dots and you get a

1 matrix with recreation activities and you can put your dots on
2 what things you'd like to see within that regional park. And
3 then some areas to capture other recreational activities that
4 may - we may not have captured within that, within that
5 graphic. So we had folks at the first public meeting put that
6 - those dots up, and then we followed that up with an online
7 survey, exactly the same. Had exactly the same questions, and
8 folks could put up to ten, you know, favorites, and then they
9 also had an opportunity to comment on other activities they'd
10 like to see, and we had over 400 respondents to that online
11 survey over the course of time we ran it. We ran it from mid-
12 December, I think to about mid-January-ish, if I recall
13 correctly. What we found out, and what you see on that graph
14 is green are the higher, you know, rated activities, have more
15 votes. You know, and you get to red, and those have less
16 votes. Then it goes - that particular spreadsheet is what our
17 consultant is using to kind of help identify, you know, what
18 might fit into the park footprint, and then also we flushed
19 this out with our stakeholder or with our working group, just
20 trying to - on the far right-hand column you'll see some green
21 and then red - on whether we wanted to include these
22 activities, even if they were low vote-getters; if it was
23 something we still should keep in the discussion mix as we go
24 through the planning process, or if it just should be pulled
25 of the table completely. So there's some things that we

1 identified as pulling off the map completely. So if you'll
2 look in the second group of trails, motorized jeep tour. It
3 was very low - it scored relatively low. When you look at
4 what the facility and what the footprint can hold, jeep tours
5 just wasn't something that we felt needed was necessary to
6 continue in the discussion going forward. And a real quick
7 summary of what we found out was trails, both motorized and
8 non-motorized, were high vote getters, and which we
9 anticipated because of some of the pre-work we've done in that
10 area, shooting sports also. There is an active, a very active
11 site within this footprint that is currently - currently gets
12 a lot of recreational shooting. So we were pretty sure we
13 would get, you know, we would see that come back on the
14 surveys and it does show that. So, this kind of - the first
15 page kind of goes over trails, motorized/non-motorized;
16 equestrian, interpretive centers and sites. Picnic areas also
17 scored relatively high. Camping scored relatively high.
18 Again, shooting sports. We had pre - you know, scored pretty
19 high, especially in, you know, like a shooting range and
20 shotgun type shooting sports. And one of the things, and I
21 think this came up as a question, just because it didn't score
22 well within the survey and the input we've had, the working
23 group was pretty adamant in their discussions of not pulling
24 those out of the discussion unless it completely made no
25 sense. Doesn't mean it's going to be in the master plan, but

1 at the point we're at right now, we didn't want to pull
2 something completely out without, you know - and take it
3 completely out of the discussion if there was some opportunity
4 to have that as part of the discussion going forward. So that
5 was why some of those, you say why did they leave that in
6 there? It was really the discussion between the working
7 group, well you know, it kind of fits with this piece, or it
8 could be a future (inaudible) in a Phase 10, so let's leave it
9 for the discussion and see if it makes sense to leave it in
10 when it gets down to the actual let's look at what's in the
11 footprint discussion. So then before I go on, any questions
12 on the activity evaluation? So then the next thing we did for
13 our public open house is we took that activity guide and said
14 what might this look like, and we've tried to stick some
15 specific sites, okay, again here, on the footprint. This is
16 what a trailhead with, you know, non-motorized trails would
17 look like at an entry spot on the north end of the park. So
18 this particular one is a day use, you know, again non-
19 motorized trail access with parking, a, you know, a parking
20 for both vehicles and for equestrian trailers, restroom, and
21 you know, access to those trails and - within that footprint.
22 And that's how that could look within the footprint. The next
23 one was the campground and day use, so this would be for
24 hookup sites as far as camping. So this would have, also
25 would have an entry station and, you know, obviously we have

1 to have water access and, you know, other utility access
2 points in there, day use restrooms and just again, what this
3 site would - could possibly look like, would have connectivity
4 to the trail system. So, you know, and as was discussed at
5 the public meeting, you know, folks were (inaudible) and we
6 use Maricopa County as an example, and EPG our consultant has
7 done a couple of master plans for Maricopa County; these are
8 the revenue generators, they're also the most expensive
9 component if you go that way. They cost a lot to put in, but
10 they also generate a significant amount of revenue.

11 BROWN: Can I ask a question?

12 TAYLOR: Mm hm.

13 BROWN: Is there a time period where it pays for
14 itself and it starts generating revenue?

15 TAYLOR: I think we'd be able, we'd be able to do
16 that. Part of what we've asked the consultant to do is to do
17 like a capital improvement plan, and part of that would be
18 that ROI, you know, if you invest \$5 million for a campground,
19 this is what would take to, you know, to pay it off. The
20 example that our consultant used on this particular facility,
21 is this is about a half million dollar a year revenue
22 generator, based on what we see in Maricopa County.

23 BROWN: Is that net, or then you got maintenance and
24 -

25 TAYLOR: That's just - yeah, I don't think that's

1 net, but I think that's just the revenue by itself. So once
2 you pull out the operational cost, then you'd have your, you
3 know, what's left over to pay the debt, to, you know, to pay
4 that off. So - and I forget what he said was the cost of
5 this. I think it was 8 to 10 mil, something like that, but
6 again, I - that's just a guess on my part. And we haven't got
7 to those numbers yet, so that -

8 BROWN: (Inaudible) what I was trying to get to is
9 it'll be on the plus side in so many years, you know.

10 TAYLOR: Yes, correct, correct. Correct. And
11 again, we are - as part of the master plan process, we've
12 asked the consultant for a capital improvement plan, and a
13 phasing plan, so the Board will have - you guys and the Board
14 will have an opportunity to move those things around as, you
15 know, to what makes sense. You know, it may make sense to
16 develop a, you know, the non-motorized trails on a limited
17 access and, you know, grow into the other points. It could
18 make sense to do this first, that's part of (inaudible)
19 process we'll have to consider it as we move forward. And
20 then the last thing we did and our consultant put together was
21 just what an actual shooting facility could look like. And
22 this is actually in the - exactly same footprint that a
23 shooting is happening now, only it would happen safer and
24 within a designated footprint, with actual safe, you know, a
25 well-designed facility, and still offer, you know, it's got -

1 this particular example shows 100 yard, 200 yard, 300 yard
2 shooting facility, as well as a shotgun facility. So it gives
3 plenty of opportunity for a variety of different shooting
4 sports. And as we've discussed in our working group meetings
5 and internally, you know, this is - this particular feature
6 would most likely be something that would be contracted out,
7 and that's the model that's used in most jurisdictions, is
8 that piece of the infrastructure is farmed out to a shooting
9 club or some other, you know, operational entity to do - to
10 run that facility. But it would be - still be part of the
11 regional park. So it could be an income-generation piece.

12 STANDAGE: Director Taylor, Wayne Standage. That
13 would be like up over at Rio Solado, they got the same setup
14 kind of there -

15 TAYLOR: Usury Mountain Park?

16 STANDAGE: It's a multi - yeah.

17 TAYLOR: Yeah, Usury Mountain Park is the same, you
18 know, that's a Maricopa County Park, but it's operated by a
19 third party.

20 STANDAGE: Mm hm. Okay.

21 TAYLOR: So, and I'm - this is our timeline, this is
22 our - as we do in our planning process is when we do a - where
23 we hire a consultant, this is part of our scoping document. I
24 will tell you, you know, I will tell you that we're, as of the
25 last public meeting, we were spot-on as far as our schedule.

1 We had, we had, you know, we were on track and on time. I'm
2 not going to guarantee that we're still going to maintain that
3 pace as we go through the process, but this is what it would
4 look like. I fully anticipate that we'll have this done this
5 calendar year, I just don't know if we're going to hit these
6 particular target dates as far as the next meetings. I
7 actually have a meeting with our consultant on Thursday to
8 talk about the next meetings, both on working group and the
9 public meetings, some of that process, to get through, you
10 know, to see where we're at and then how we're, how we're
11 progressing through that process. Those of you who have
12 worked with me for a while know I'm a stickler for these
13 schedules, I like to deliver them on time, but it is really
14 not the norm to deliver them completely on time, so - in my
15 experience. And I believe that was it. I mean we do have all
16 of the planning documents, both the working group, from a
17 working group and the public meetings, all the maps are on the
18 website, and you can use that link. Or as you can see there,
19 if you just do a quick Google search and Google search Palo
20 Verde Regional Park it will direct you directly to our page.

21 D'ABELLA: And to clarify, there is a comment button
22 and that comment button is available for anybody's use who
23 might have a comment about the Palo Verde Regional Park master
24 planning process.

25 TAYLOR: That is correct.

1 JOHNSON: Vice Chair Johnson, quick question.

2 Following that public meeting, can you give us a sense of the
3 amount of feedback you got, either written or online, please?

4 TAYLOR: Yes. Vice Chair, thank you for asking
5 that. The - so if you haven't heard, the meeting was a
6 challenge from a planning perspective. We had some very vocal
7 folks who kind of - to a certain extent hijacked the meeting a
8 little bit and who are not in favor of doing any regional park
9 in that area ever. So they were very loud and very
10 aggressive, and so it was - we thought it would be interesting
11 to see what comments came back after that. I mean they
12 definitely, from the meeting perspective, they were definitely
13 the most vocal. What we got back from the comment forms that
14 came in through the meeting, and then those that would come in
15 afterwards since the public meeting, the written replies we
16 got from the meeting were about 2/3 pro park, with multiple
17 suggestions on what should go in the park, and about 1/3 that
18 said no, heck no, we don't want any regional park in our area
19 for a variety of different reasons. Since the public meeting,
20 we have had probably, you know, eight or 10 probably written
21 comments, and it's about 50/50.

22 BRISTOW: Madam Chairwoman? What was the general
23 problem with having a park there? Was it just opposition to
24 bringing in people or was it -

25 JOHNSON: That was - and Commissioners who were

1 there if you want to chime in to add to this, please feel
2 free. That was - Commissioner Bristow, that was one, yeah the
3 fear of bringing in more people. Some felt that they - some
4 folks have a fear of the safety issue in that area because it
5 is, at least there is a fear of some of the illegal activity
6 that happens in that corridor. Some that would just like it
7 to leave it alone as - under BLM Management and not offer any
8 other kind of development within the park and let them do
9 whatever they want and wherever they want. A general fear
10 that it might raise their taxes, how are we going to pay for
11 this.

12 BUTLER: This is Commissioner Butler. There was
13 quite a bit of an objection to the idea that they'd have to
14 pay to use the area they can use for free right now.

15 TAYLOR: That pretty much covers it, I think.

16 D'ABELLA: So, you know, since then in talking to
17 some people, I guess their biggest fear is that this is
18 happening this year, that the park will actually start its
19 implementation process and by next year we will have some of
20 those conceptual drawings you saw up there, we'll actually
21 have that done. And so trying to educate people that this is
22 decades in the making for the completion of something, you
23 know, that would incorporate every phase of that 21,000 acres
24 is - might be a little bit more realistic and something for
25 our grandchildren and great grandchildren, and great-great-

1 great-great-grandchildren to appreciate, so I think that that
2 helped a little bit having them understand that this is just a
3 master planning process that's going to take years, maybe
4 decades to completely implement. So I think that's one of the
5 biggest concerns and fears that they had.

6 TAYLOR: And that's not completely unexpected. We
7 heard those - to give you some historical perspective - I
8 heard those exact same comments in 2006 and 2007 when we were
9 doing the Open Space and Trails Master Plan and we were
10 putting those regional parks on the map, and the fear was well
11 that's going to happen tomorrow. And, you know, and my
12 message to whenever I talk to somebody and as I discuss the
13 project, obviously it's taken us ten years to get to the point
14 from a very, very high level master plan, to a site-specific
15 master plan. It may take us another ten years to get to an
16 actual, you know, development. And depending on - because of
17 the variables involved, BLM approvals and the myriad of hoops
18 we'll have to jump through in that process - funding and
19 everything else, it's going to be a while. So we try to
20 communicate that message as best we can.

21 GOFF: Commissioner Goff. I don't want to incite it
22 too much, but I know as I was sitting in that meeting, having
23 read a great deal about, and watched news reports, of the
24 wildlife refuge that was taken over in Oregon recently, and
25 having watched, you know - followed that whole series over

1 more than a decade, I thought I was hearing clearly that same
2 mentality. You know, I have lived here X-number of years and
3 the presumption was therefore I own it, as if it were
4 homesteading. Some of the same kinds of assumptions, so I
5 think - I'm impressed having sat through the meeting - at
6 least the first half, two-thirds of it - I'm impressed that
7 the numbers came out that nicely and very gratified that they
8 did.

9 BROWN: Expanding on that, because I have a long-
10 term experience with these kind of things, to where the people
11 that you saw that felt that they owned it because they had
12 been there a long time, those become the people that did the
13 original master plan, that when the new people come and say
14 just because you did a master plan 20 years ago, doesn't mean
15 anything to me, you know, we live here now, these are things
16 we want to see done on there, but it still doesn't get done.
17 Then another 20 years, those are the ones that are defending
18 it, and the new people coming in saying you think you own this
19 because you did the revisions to the master plan. You know,
20 it's at some point it's not owned, it's not anything until -
21 the product is when it's in place. The master plan is a
22 start, you know, that's - it'll be modified 27 ways from
23 Sunday, by the time it actually gets done, you know. And
24 anybody from - thinking that they own it because they lived
25 there a long time, or because they take proprietary relations

1 to the regional plan, like Gina said, it'll be our great-great
2 grandkids that they'll be haggling over that. I don't know
3 what great great grandpa was was thinking about, you know,
4 this is what we want. You know. So it's all - it's just
5 getting the ball a little further up the hill. That's all.

6 BUTLER: This is Commissioner Butler. Director
7 Taylor, I really appreciated that you clarified keeping those
8 things in the mix for the discussion, because the way the
9 consultant presented it at the meeting, I felt like he was
10 saying we're going to do all these things eventually, and, and
11 I just could not fathom how that could possibly be true. So I
12 think that's an important distinction, and I appreciate you
13 saying that.

14 TAYLOR: Glad I could clarify that.

15 BUTLER: Is the thought that people camp at some
16 place like that with electric and not at Kortsen, is that the
17 difference? Or what is the difference, it's going to attract
18 all these people to camp there and not eight miles down the
19 road, or five?

20 TAYLOR: Oh that - there's a couple of reasons.
21 First yes, it's full hookups.

22 BUTLER: Okay.

23 TAYLOR: And managed for that. And more
24 importantly, designed and marketed for that. Remember that
25 Kortsen was never designed as a camping location. It was a

1 day use park. That's what the design is. It kind of got
2 taken over from folks camping there over the years when the
3 park was less than actively managed, so the only thing we're
4 doing there is we're trying to take advantage of that existing
5 historical activity and try to make a little money off of it.

6 BUTLER: Thank you.

7 TAYLOR: Oh yeah, definitely.

8 D'ABELLA: Any other comments or questions on Palo
9 Verde Regional Park?

10 BUTLER: I had one other question, this is
11 Commissioner Butler again. The - see, I thought I understood
12 at the meeting there's some difference between how BLM would
13 turn over or not exactly turn over this park, versus Peralta,
14 could you explain that?

15 TAYLOR: Sure. So yes. BLM has two ways, or ways
16 the identify some of their property. One is as a disposable
17 property. So disposable properties are disbursed properties
18 that BLM owns that is not close to or contiguous with any
19 other BLM property. So they identify those as possible
20 locations for dispo - what they call disposal, because it
21 makes more sense for somebody else to manage that, some other
22 entity as opposed to them because of the location, the, you
23 know, to - or lack of location to other BLM properties. This
24 particular property is not a disposable property, so as we've
25 had our initial discussions with them - and I'll back up. On

1 the disposable properties you typically go through an RMPP
2 process and you can actually acquire that property. This
3 particular property we don't think in our initial discussion
4 with BLM that they're going to be open to us acquiring the
5 entire parcel, and it would be handled through what we call a
6 cooperative recreation management agreement. So what we're
7 doing is we're going to BLM and saying hey, we both have an
8 interest in seeing recreational activities go on in this
9 location, let's sign an agreement this is what the plan is
10 going to be, and that's what the master plan is is your plan
11 our development. This is what we're going to do, and this is
12 how we're going to operate that. Now the - a couple of small
13 differences of that is we may parcel out pieces, so I'll use
14 the camping - the developed camping site and the shooting
15 recreation site as possible parts that we could parcel out
16 from that recreation management agreement and actually
17 acquired through their RMPP process so that we can do the
18 activities, those revenue-generating activities that we've
19 identified there.

20 BUTLER: Thank you.

21 TAYLOR: So a short answer to that is it's a lot of
22 federal hoops that we have to jump through. Again, another
23 reason that we have to, that you know, that that's not going
24 to open next week, or next year.

25 BROWN: As a matter of my own curiosity, what kind

1 of correlation between your dot survey and the online surveys?
2 Were there - was it consistent or were they - was there a
3 significant difference?

4 TAYLOR: Between the folks that came to the public
5 open house?

6 BROWN: Right.

7 TAYLOR: There was a difference definitely. The
8 public open house we had 50-something folks there, was - it
9 was - if I recall correctly, it was heavily trails and
10 shooting. Those were the two constituencies we had there.
11 The online survey, we saw more folks come in on the camping
12 side, a lot more OHV, I think, interest on the online version.

13 BROWN: Yeah. I think that sounds to be expected.
14 You have the constituents that are more adamant that would
15 show up, versus the ones that would come to some place if it
16 were in existence, but they're not the more activist types.

17 TAYLOR: Yes sir.

18 BROWN: Yeah, oaky.

19 TAYLOR: You could definitely, one of the things I
20 noticed, I kind of monitored the survey on a every couple of
21 day basis as it went through there, you could definitely tell
22 when user groups were contacting others within their user
23 group network. Because you could see spikes in okay, you
24 know, the OHV community just came in on that - on this couple
25 of days, or somebody's group got - equestrians you could see

1 come in. The mountain bike or bicyclists who came in, so you
2 could see those little spikes as we went through the process
3 as folks talked with them and networked. Which is what we
4 wanted them to do, talk within your networks. Get the
5 information out.

6 BROWN: Probably isn't that active a family campsite
7 organization, right?

8 TAYLOR: Well but camping always regulates high. I
9 mean back when we did Peralta, I mean I, you know, I would
10 have never suspected we were going to have camping in Peralta,
11 but that came out in our discussions early and strong, and has
12 on this one also. Yeah. People are looking for ways to get
13 away from the normal day-to-day stuff that we deal with and,
14 you know, that's an easy way to do it.

15 BROWN: I'm looking to encourage people to weigh in
16 that don't normally weigh in. That's, you know, get everybody
17 involved.

18 BRISTOW: Madam Chairwoman. Commissioner Bristow.
19 I had a question, do we have any kind of a commitment or an
20 agreement or any, even a verbal indication from the state or
21 from the federal land management agency, BLM, as far as use
22 for these properties, or are we just one of 10 that are
23 looking at them, or where are we in that?

24 TAYLOR: No, we've had dialogue, Commissioner
25 Bristow, we've had dialogue with BLM since we did the original

1 master plan back in 2006, 2007. If you'll recall, our master
2 plan is - and the regional park model, we're using exactly the
3 same model that was used in Maricopa County. Identifying
4 those BLM properties that make sense within the County, and
5 work with BLM to turn those into, you know, future regional
6 parks. Exactly the same thing that Maricopa County did
7 starting in the 1950s. Really - you know, so they've known
8 about that, that we've had that on our planning to do list.
9 Back in 2012, I mean before the department was created, I re-
10 engaged because we saw kind of a - you know, (inaudible), so
11 we re-engaged that dialogue with both the Tucson field office
12 and with Sonoran Desert field office, to, you know, hey we're
13 going to start some planning projects and they're going to be
14 these regional parks in these areas so they're aware of that.
15 We filed, you know, even though we weren't sure an RMPP
16 application would be appropriate, we filed RMPP applications
17 for both Peralta and for Palo Verde, so that is on file with
18 BLM. And as far as I know, nobody else is interested in those
19 parcels, and actually I think BLM would be in a quite happy if
20 we helped them manage some of their properties, so - and
21 that's what we're willing to do. To create these regional
22 parks, we're really telling BLM, you know, let us help you
23 because they - I can tell you, there's only two, I think law
24 enforcement officers for BLM covering the entire Sonoran
25 Desert National Monument and this parcel, so it's - I mean

1 it's humongous. So I think they would be happy to have some
2 help managing some of these parcels.

3 STANDAGE: Madam Chair. Wayne Standage. How is it
4 going with working with Maricopa County parks, because part of
5 this area is in - that BLM is into Maricopa County.

6 TAYLOR: Commissioner Standage, we had that dialogue
7 with Maricopa County when we - before we started the planning
8 process.

9 STANDAGE: Right.

10 TAYLOR: Said hey, do you want to participate in
11 this and include the properties on the other side of the
12 County line, you know, and we could partner on that. They
13 were - they didn't want to join that particular planning
14 process, mainly because they have really no population close.

15 STANDAGE: That is true. That's quite a -

16 TAYLOR: It wasn't something that was on their -
17 that really benefited their - a good portion of their
18 residents. We are, as a part of our planning process, we're -
19 our consultant is taking a look at those properties that spin
20 over into the Maricopa County side to see if any of that makes
21 sense to include within our planning proposal. You know, if
22 there's a series of peaks or something that, you know, would
23 make a wonderful hiking destination or some other, you know,
24 thing that would make that - make sense for us to include, but
25 it's not a given that we would include that. There's some

1 additional hoops we have to jump through if it's on the other
2 side of the county line, because of the federal requirements,
3 but -

4 STANDAGE: Okay, by like (inaudible) was kind of
5 receptive or just definite no?

6 TAYLOR: Oh, yeah, we have a good working
7 relationship with Maricopa County, they just weren't
8 interested in partnering on this project, so.

9 STANDAGE: They could be later.

10 TAYLOR: It'll cost them more later.

11 STANDAGE: I know.

12 TAYLOR: I'm using the flesh, so he's going to owe
13 me.

14 D'ABELLA: Okay, is there any other comments or
15 questions for Director Taylor on the Palo Verde Regional Park
16 Master Plan process? Seeing none, we'll move on to the update
17 on the Tortolita Regional Park Trails.

18 TAYLOR: Yeah. Chair and Commissioners, I just
19 wanted to give you a brief update on what we've been doing in
20 the Tortolitas and some of the challenges that we have
21 encountered - unanticipated challenges - in getting this
22 project up and going. So I think last summer I came to you
23 guys and said okay, we've, you know, here's the master plan
24 trails that were originally designated, and we kind of chunked
25 that off into thirds and said, you know, here's a Phase 1,

1 here's a Phase 2, and here's Phase 3, and we decided we were
2 going to start on this side, on the west side of the
3 Tortolitas. It's closer to the population, it's close to I-10
4 over here, it's close to our CAP Trail. It has a couple of
5 trailhead access points. We know that Marana's building
6 trails up to here and they're right at the County line, so we
7 knew we were going to have some connection possibilities. And
8 we really thought that that was the best way to go and it was
9 going to be pretty simple. The trail network included - and
10 I'm going to have to - because I can't really see from here -
11 there's a couple of parcels in here where trails go through
12 that are actually owned by Pima County, and I'm guessing
13 because I can't see from this distance, but like one on here
14 and one in this area. So it's a Pima County plan that was
15 done, and the trail's right through Pima County property. We
16 weren't anticipating any real hiccups as we started that
17 process. So our idea was to hire a contractor and what our -
18 what we did was hired a contractor to what we call ground
19 truth these trails to kind out if the trail corridor, you
20 know, is in the right place, if we could build a sustainable
21 trail, if the trailhead location made sense, and then put that
22 into a GPS and GIS layer for us so that that would allow us to
23 take the next step in development, which is the State land
24 acquisition process and the trail corridor identification and
25 building process and all that stuff that comes next, we have

1 to have that on the ground data. About two weeks after my
2 consultant started, he requested a meeting with Pima County
3 and was surprised to find out that they had some objections to
4 a couple of the properties that the trails were actually going
5 - the Pima County-owned properties that the trail were
6 identified going through. And these were critical trail
7 corridors and junctions that without those, we really had no
8 place else to go. And it's really the Pima County issue on -
9 and it tied up with their Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan,
10 and their Section 10 permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
11 Service, and some springs that are on those properties, so
12 it's a little more of a mess than we anticipated in there. So
13 we've opened some dialogue with Pima County, we've also
14 included Marana and Oro Valley and ourselves and that to see
15 if we can, you know, get around some of the issues on that
16 western side. But at the time it was like well that's not
17 going to happen quickly. There's too much in the way. So we
18 made a - with my boss' approval, we made a management decision
19 and a recommendation from our consultant, we moved the project
20 over to the east side. So our consultant has been on the
21 ground for the last few weeks on the east - several weeks -on
22 the east side, you know, identifying those corridors. What I
23 will tell you is that this is - there's some trails already
24 coming up from Oro Valley, there's some existing - and I'll
25 use social trails that have already been developed on that

1 State land in this area. In fact our consultant was out a
2 couple weeks ago and they were passed by several hikers and
3 mountain bikers while they were out there, and some of the
4 stuff they were looking at is really - it's pretty well built
5 and maintainable, but some of it actually kind of follows some
6 of the lines that we've already identified in this area, and
7 one of them's actually a little different, you know, comes up
8 and kind of makes a big loop. It goes in this way, out that
9 way, over this way and back. So again, that's why we wanted
10 to get somebody out on the ground, a consultant out on the
11 ground, so we could figure out what's out there. I will tell
12 you one of the other things we're going to have some - we're
13 going to have around, is there are some pretty significant
14 cultural resources on both sides of the Tortolitas. So in
15 2012 we worked with - Pinal County worked with Desert
16 Archeology on doing some cultural resource planning through
17 Pinal County, and both the east and west Tortolitas were
18 identified as areas where there's some stuff out there; but
19 it's within, you know, a trail network is one of the passive
20 activities that you typically can put in and around, you know,
21 the cultural sites as long as you're not going over the top of
22 them and through or over them, that kind of thing, and that -
23 putting a sign that says hey guys, cool cultural resource
24 sites this way. So, you know, we see - you know, it started
25 out kind of ugly, but it has, you know, I think it turned into

1 something that, you know, is going to be pretty good. It's
2 still close to some areas of population, it's close to
3 Saddlebrook Ranch and Oracle. It's got easy access off of
4 Highway 79, or 79 - 77 that goes through there. So we've got
5 some, we've got some good things going for us. The kind of
6 encouraging thing for me it's good that we're getting out now,
7 is that use is already going - we've already got un - and I
8 can almost guarantee you that none of the folks that are using
9 it right now have a state land permit. So that would be my
10 guess. So I think it's the right time and we - it's good
11 timing to get out there and get these things planned and
12 hopefully built and on the ground officially, so that we're
13 not getting that area used, because if there's, you know,
14 unauthorized or illegal trail stuff going on, it could be
15 going through cultural sites and those kind of things. So
16 that kind of planning ahead of time is going to save us in the
17 end. So that's where we're at. I just wanted to update you
18 folks. Not what we intended, but sometimes plans have to
19 change. And I certainly, you know, from my perspective, I
20 love the consultant I'm working with on this project, and he
21 helped do the Pima County plan back in 2009 and I didn't want
22 to lose him, you know, this season. And we have a window in
23 the desert, if we don't finish this planning stuff by May,
24 it's not going to happen until next October. So I lose six
25 months in my planning process if I don't get it on the ground

1 soon.

2 D'ABELLA: Okay. Any questions for Director Taylor
3 on the Tortolita Park Planning Process?

4 BRISTOW: Madam Chairman, I have a question. The -
5 is this the electric power station on Highway 77? Is that
6 this place right here?

7 TAYLOR: Yeah, Commissioner Bristow, I believe so.
8 I'd have to pull it up on a better map than I have. Let me -

9 BRISTOW: Do you foresee that in the future we'll be
10 purchasing any of that property, or are we going to have all
11 of this private land within a County park?

12 TAYLOR: That's been asked before and as we looked
13 at the west side too. At this point in time our plans at this
14 point in time are only for a trail network that coincides with
15 the work - the trail networks that come up from the south side
16 in Pima County and Marana and Oro Valley. We have no
17 intention, and the discussion has come up on the east side
18 about the State trust land, we have no intention of acquiring
19 State trust land in sections in that area at this time.

20 D'ABELLA: So it would just be like a type - again,
21 a cooperative agreement for a trail corridor?

22 TAYLOR: With state trust land, we have to actually
23 purchase the (inaudible). We have to purchase the right-of-
24 way.

25 D'ABELLA: Just the right-of-way. So if it's like a

1 -

2 TAYLOR: So a 15 foot corridor. Yep.

3 BRISTOW: What would you see - what would you
4 foresee on the yellow of the BLM?

5 TAYLOR: Actually same thing. We've had that
6 discussion with BLM on their property that they have some
7 parcels right there, that yellow - those yellow parcels. The
8 dot, those parcels are not available for acquisition, for
9 jurisdictions, because of some historic recreational set
10 asides that were done back in the 60s, so they also have that
11 set aside for recreational uses. So what we would do is we
12 would partner with them for trail corridors through that
13 property. And now that I enlarged that, those hashed areas
14 are the areas that are Pima County-owned property and this one
15 right - the offensive area is right there. So that's the
16 location of Cochise Spring, and there is actually a spring
17 there. Which doesn't necessarily mean it would negate a trail
18 corridor going in there, but again, because of some of the
19 issues with some of their Sonoran Desert and, you know, a
20 Section 10 permit and all that kind of stuff, they have to be
21 very careful in what they do in those areas because some of
22 these acquisitions is part of the mitigation for their Section
23 10 permit. So they're a little cautious. That's what we got
24 caught up in.

25 D'ABELLA: Okay. Any other comments or questions?

1 BUTLER: This is Commissioner Butler, Director
2 Taylor, could you remind us which of the trailheads are
3 actually there, and on the ground?

4 TAYLOR: None within Pinal County.

5 BUTLER: Is the one in Pima that's off that purple
6 that you were just -

7 TAYLOR: Like this one?

8 BUTLER: Yes.

9 TAYLOR: No, that one is not physically there yet.
10 There's some social trailheads on both sides of the County
11 line, and there's one in this area, but it's not in that
12 location, officially yet.

13 BUTLER: Okay, so they're using social trailheads to
14 acc - okay.

15 TAYLOR: Yeah.

16 BUTLER: Okay, thank you.

17 TAYLOR: You're welcome.

18 D'ABELLA: Any other comments or questions? Okay,
19 hearing none, we'll move onto Call to Commission. This is the
20 time where you would provide any oral comments, suggestions,
21 announcements. This is not intended to allow discussion or
22 action, just gives you an opportunity if you have any events
23 happening in your area that you wanted to let the Commission
24 know, as an example. Do we have any Call to the Commission?
25 Okay, I have one. We have, with the Pinal Partnership Open

1 Space and Trails Committee, a quarterly photo contest, and we
2 just started April 1st a new theme, and this will run - this
3 theme will run the gamut of April through May 31st, and the
4 theme is flowers. So if you have any photographs of any
5 flower, it doesn't have to be wildflowers, but I know we had a
6 short wildflower season here in Pinal County, but you can even
7 submit flowers from previous years as well, because we've had
8 some beautiful wildflower seasons in previous years. You're
9 welcome to submit, there's no rules on when you took the
10 photo, it just has to be taken within Pinal County. And you
11 can upload that photo to our Pinal Partnership Open Space and
12 Trails Committee Group, and there - the announcement of the
13 winners will be announced by June 1st. Anybody else have any?

14 ??: I have one. Also, with the Pinal Partnership
15 Open Space and Trails Committee, our next meeting it appears
16 it will be, as scheduled, the 3rd of May, somewhere in Florence
17 - we're trying to get this together - we expect to have the
18 meeting in conjunction with the Partnership's transportation,
19 economic development and government affairs committees, and
20 the entire Pinal Partnership Board is also invited. We're
21 going to have Chuck Backus, under whose leadership both the
22 Superstition Area Land Plan and Superstition Vistas were
23 carried out, and he's going to be talking about the history of
24 the development of those two plans. We had him back February
25 10th do this for the SALT speaker series, and Jason Barney and

1 I both said we made one big mistake, we didn't record this,
2 and we need it to be presented to these other groups. So
3 we're trying to do two things: educate or re-educate those of
4 us who weren't around during that era, or who have simply
5 forgotten, and also give a jumpstart to some more
6 collaboration between the various committees within the
7 Partnership. So if you're on any of those committees, or for
8 that matter if you're not, we'll try to let you know where
9 that will be and feel free to attend. We're trying to get a
10 place that will hold at least 100 people, but we don't know
11 for sure if that's enough.

12 D'ABELLA: Okay, thank you. Anybody else? Hearing
13 none, we'll move onto Item 10, Discussion of Possible Future
14 Agenda Items.

15 TAYLOR: So Madam Chair, the only thing I just added
16 to that is the continuation of the Park Rules. The first item
17 on there is a maybe - I just put it on there - that's if a
18 permit of park change makes it through the State legislature,
19 and if I get to that, okay in time for July, then I might have
20 some possible camping fee and rule revisions for you. If the
21 first item doesn't take place, you're not going to see that.

22 D'ABELLA: Okay. Anybody else have any other items
23 they'd like to see discussed on a future agenda?

24 BRISTOW: Madam Chairman, I would like to see a
25 report, an evaluation on what we think will happen with our

1 new legislation, assuming it's going to be signed by the
2 Governor if he hasn't already on 1306.

3 D'ABELLA: So on Senate Bill 1306, an update on how
4 that affects our Open Space and Trails Master Plan?

5 BRISTOW: Funding.

6 D'ABELLA: Funding, okay. Any other ideas,
7 suggestions for a future agenda? Okay, hearing none, do I
8 hear a motion for adjournment?

9 BROWN: I move we go home.

10 ??: I'll second it.

11 D'ABELLA: All in favor?

12 COLLECTIVE: Aye.

13 D'ABELLA: Good meeting, thank you.

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Julie A. Fish