

Agenda
Natural Features Protection Review Board
January 28, 2020
Regular Meeting

Community Room, Second Floor, City Hall, 241 W. South Street

4:00 p.m.

- A. Meeting called to order at 4:15 pm
- B. Members present: Ashley Cole-wick, Erin Fuller, Bobby Glasser, Paul MacNellis, Kyle Marin, Alan Sylvester

Members absent: Mitch Lettow

Staff present: Jamie McCarthy, Nolan Bergstrom
- C. A motion was made by Director MacNellis to approve the agenda, motion supported by Director Fuller. Agenda was approved unanimously by voice vote.
- D. A motion was made by Director MacNellis to adopt meeting minutes from December 10, 2019, motion supported by Director Fuller. Minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.
- E. New Business (none)
- F. Old Business

1. NFP guide and checklist review

Jamie McCarthy provided a brief staff report on past NFP applications. The site at 500 Golden Drive provided the required updates to their demolition site plan and is leaving the large basswood tree on the property at this stage. The consultant noted that the NFP review board's comments were helpful in their decision to leave the tree in place.

The project at 2835 Stadium Drive has not applied for site plan review yet and is still working on geotechnical analysis and engineering design for the retaining wall. Staff highlighted the project as a good example of how NFP standards allowed the least impact to the site and woodlands despite the separate requirement for medical marihuana businesses.

Jamie asked the NFP review board about create an additional checklist as part of the NFP supplemental application for site plan. The board agreed with the need for a decision support tool to give feedback before and during reviewing NFP site plans. Staff will continue to work on a checklist for board review at an upcoming meeting.

2. Phase 2, mapping (water resources, preserves, slope, NAIP canopy vs 1938)

Nolan Bergstrom presented several maps to the NFP review board following

feedback from the board in December. Nolan had already provided the board with an analysis of parcels immediately adjacent to all surface water bodies and wetlands. The board had asked for a similar parcel analysis for slopes and preserves. The board also wanted more information on tree canopy or location of contiguous woodlands.

During the meeting Nolan presented for board discussion a map with water resources-parcels and preserve-parcels. He provided a map with NAIP imagery classifications to show the approximate tree canopy within the core areas of the City. He will complete the classification for the entire city with board direction. The board compared the NAIP imagery map with the 1938 aerial and noted a substantial increase in tree canopy since the 1930s. Director Cole-wick asked whether the bands of the NAIP imagery could be separated to understand where coniferous and deciduous trees are in the City.

The board discussed the distribution of tree canopy and natural feature overlay district across different neighborhoods. They noted that some neighborhoods, especially our oldest neighborhoods had fewer parcels within the NFP overlay district and asked how we might increase natural features within these neighborhoods.

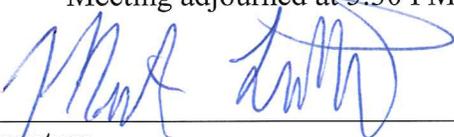
Nolan also provided the board with a slope analysis he completed using a 1-meter resolution DEM data layer. The resulting map identified areas throughout the City with slopes greater than 20% grade. The board discussed next steps with staff, including layering the different natural features maps and transforming data onto parcel boundaries for NFP overlay consideration. The board discussed ways to “ground truth” parcels identified through GIS layers to determine if natural features still exist on site.

G. Board Comments

Director MacNellis mentioned that he would like to discuss at a future meeting the definition of non-native species in the NFP standards. He is concerned that the definition uses the word “introduced” and might improperly characterize restored habitats as non-native under this definition.

H. Citizen Comments

L. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM



Signature

Mitchell Lettow, Chair



Signature

Jamie McCarthy, Recording Secretary