

CPC Meeting Notes

January 22, 2009 Meeting 4:15 – 6:00pm

PLANNING COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Harris, Kenzie Singleton, Stanley Rasmussen

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Amy Brown, Mary Miller

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Frank Norman, Tom Huntzinger, Barbara Clark, Jason Fizell, Tim Herndon, Jennifer Delisle, Kelly Kindscher, Crystal Miles

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Received presentation from Kelly Kindscher and Jennifer Delisle with the Kansas Biological Survey.
 - o Discussed major projects and functions of the Kansas Biological Survey (KBS).
 - Work is project driven, mostly grant funded.
 - Part of the NatureServe Network
 - Map locations of rare plants, animals and ecosystems
 - Tallgrass Prairie and Forest:
 - Originally Douglas County was made up of 10% Forest and 90% Prairie less than 1% of the original prairie remains today. (roughly 1400 acres)
 - High-quality prairies maintain species composition prior to European Settlements.
 - Western Prairie Fringed Orchid and Mead's Milkweed are federally protected.
 - Fire managed prairie is best.
 - Encourage establishment of conservation easements, utilize as parks and open space, collaborate with ECO2, and encourage education programs.
 - Map conservation easements and show general locations of prairie's and forests.
 (Don't map prairies less than 5 acres)
 - Importance of establishing buffers around prairies.
 - Prairies have not been successfully rebuilt, therefore they are irreplaceable and should be looked at as amenities.
- The group held a general discussion regarding incentives and specifically discussed density bonuses.

NEXT STEPS:

• Staff is working to draft language and set up future educational meetings for the remaining sections.

FUTURE CPC MEETING DATES:

Thursday, February 2, 2009 4:00-5:45pm