



Cooper Gulch  
Common Grounds

Drafting a Mission Meeting Notes

December 2, 2015

5:30pm - 7:30pm

1720 10th Street, Cooper Gulch Community Center

## Meeting Outcomes

- Creation of relationships around Cooper Gulch
- Share updated working Vision
- Draft Mission

Participants - 16 people total attended (Disc golfers, parents, neighboring residents (life-long and new), restoration enthusiasts)

## Opening/Agenda Review/Roles

## Introductions & one wish for Cooper Gulch

- Feel comfortable that my children are safe to come here and play
- Watershed healthy again
- Place for K-12 to come learn about the watershed
- Trails
- Safety when walking
- Mountain bike trails and interconnection with other trails
- Paved and off-road trails
- Safe access for children
- Improved lighting
- Have a place where one is not afraid
- Improved disc golf course
- Access points to the different neighborhoods, no fences
- Utilize more varied recreational opportunities
- Improved bathroom facilities and have them open
- Have multiple reasons to bring children here
- Disc golf course educational programs for children

## Ground Rules

- share air time
- have patience
- stay on topic
- put cell phones on silent mode

## Decision Making Process

- Gradients of Agreement tool introduced - general agreement to try this tool out in coming to agreement on a working vision.
  - 1 - Fully Agree

- 2 - Agree with Reservation
- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - I'm not in support but I won't block the group
- 5 - Adamantly against, would block.
- Poll the group on which number you are on a given topic.
- Invite more discussion from those who are not in support or have reservations
- Purpose is to come to a better decision that addresses the issues identified.

## Working Vision

Re-Cap of Vision exercise from November 11 and themes identified (see Nov. 11 mtg notes)

Presentation & Discussion of Proposed Working Vision:

Vision: Cooper Gulch is a cherished community space which offers a diversity of safe, engaging recreational facilities and programs for a broad spectrum of the community and:

- Easily transforms to accommodate a variety of activities and events for all ages
- Has a safe, connected trail network and welcoming neighborhood-access points
- Is a community space utilized regularly by neighbors, visitors and their pets alike
- Has play spaces for all ages
- Is a model for restoration of healthy, urban watershed habitat
- Serves as an outdoor classroom for local schools and city programs
- Inspires creativity, imagination, and learning
- Reflects our local craftsmanship and artisanry
- And is stewarded by the City of Eureka, active citizens and local businesses which collaborate on park planning, events and maintenance.

General agreement - Shorten vision statement. First sentence largely captures it, and was the point of discussion for revising/amending. Following bullet points can be used as goals. It was agreed to take the following statement and create a few similar versions using different language in each related and vote on it the next meeting.

- Central Ideas to the agreed upon vision - "Cooper Gulch is a cherished community space that offers a diversity of safe, engaging recreational facilities and programs for a broad spectrum of the community balanced with a healthy environment."
- Other versions include:
  - starting the statement with "To see Cooper Gulch as a cherished..."
  - ending the statement with something like "broad spectrum of the community balanced with restored aquatic and terrestrial habitat."

Who else to get involved in defining vision?

- High school kids
- Skateboarders
- Birding community

Need to engage others in defining the vision before it is adopted.

## Draft Mission

(Notes to come)

## Next Steps

### How to get involved & who's doing what for the next meeting.

- Attend OSPR Commission meeting January 14th for presentation to Commission
- Facebook - post, like or share posts on "Cooper Gulch Common Grounds" FB page
- Create meeting flyer - Jane to create next meeting flyer
  - Google Docs share folder created to house and borrow from older versions that can be easily updated with new information.
- Post flyers - Dennis volunteered to post flyers for the next meeting.
- Talk with 3 neighbor or friends about the effort.
- Type up meeting notes - Krista
- Craft working mission from group's brainstorm - Tom, Travis & Teresa
- Write HAF Grassroots Grant - Anna & Teresa

Working Vision - engage High School kids and get input

Drafting Mission - Travis & Tom will take notes and come up with draft mission statement to bring back to the group at the next meeting.

Open Space Parks & Recreation Commision (OSPR) meeting - January 14 - update on progress and solicit advice on next steps. Christy will send out email when confirmed that we are on their agenda. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Meet with Community Development & Parks Staff - coordinate plan with City's plan/projects/programs. Seek support in getting demographics of the neighboring areas.

Next meeting - early February.

Outreach ideas - need to get the word out better

- 👉 Use Green Team and Trail Stewards work days to spread the word
- 👉 Placement of flyers at all trail entrances, skate park, Mistwood parent mail-boxes
- 👉 Lost Coast Outpost
- 👉 Word of mouth especially to your neighbors
- 👉 Next Door
- 👉 Face Book
- 👉 KHSU Community Calendar
- 👉 Journal and Times Standard

## Closing

### Meeting Evaluation

What went well?

What would you have changed?

- Gradients of Agreement
- A working clock
- Flow of discussion
- Stayed on topic

- Turn heater on earlier, loud hard to hear
- Half way through change seating