

Dear Friends of Open Space,

We hope that those of you who attended our December and January organizing meetings on Options for Land Preservation in Comal County will join us again at **the next meeting on Wednesday, February 21st from 2:30 to 4:pm at the McKenna Center** (801 West San Antonio Street, New Braunfels) so that we can continue to move forward toward our goal of establishing a broad-based coalition to conserve open spaces in Comal County.

We also invite those of you who did not attend in December or January to attend this meeting to learn more and help direct our activities. You can see notes from the meeting **here** and read a report from Community Impact <u>here</u>.

Agenda for meeting:

2:30 Introductions (10 min)

2:40 Discuss Proposed Name & Mission Statement (15 min)

2:55 Review proposed activities of coalition & divide into groups according to interest (10 min)

3:05 Small interest group discussions of next steps (35 min)

3:40 Reports back to large group. (15 min)

3:55 Wrap-up. Set next meeting details. (Suggestions for venues where we can meet after 5:pm are welcome.)

4:00 Adjourn

As you can see from the agenda, we will spend a short time trying to finalize a Name & Mission Statement, but we also want to spend the majority of our time making some concrete decisions about activities that the coalition will pursue. Depending on individual interests, we will break into small groups. Each group will focus on one of these possibilities: a public information campaign in Comal County about the importance of conserving land, a more direct project of working with landowners about options for conservation, hosting an event to map important locations to preserve in Comal County, researching public funding options for land conservation, and steps needed for building a coalition. Or a small group might form around another idea.

Before the next meeting, interested participants are urged to weigh in on the draft mission statement, which will be discussed at the meeting. You can add changes and comment on various versions of the mission statement and on choices for a name for the group by clicking <u>here</u>.

Look at the list of possible organizations to invite to the coalition. If you have suggestions, or could make a contact, please add the info needed <u>here</u>.

If you would prefer evening meetings, please bring suggestions for a venue for meetings after 5 pm. (Or reply to this email with your suggestion.)

We hope to see you on at the McKenna Center at 2:30 p.m. on February 21st.

Have a great weekend!

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