

SUMMIT COUNTY
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COUNCIL
SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

March 4, 2020

OSAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Turk Montepare, John Taylor, John Uban, Diane Hunt, Bob Gregory, Art Hardin, Terry Craig, Laura Rossetter

OSAC MEMBERS ABSENT: Todd Rankin, Jeff Leigh, Bruce Fitch

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Lorch, Jason Lederer, Jim Curnutte

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC PRESENT: Anna Bengston- USFS, Pete Swenson - Town of Frisco, Anne Murphy - Town of Breckenridge

Call to Order: Turk Montepare called the meeting of the Summit County Open Space Advisory Council to order at 5:34 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Brian Lorch noted that Election of Officers should be added to the agenda. The agenda was approved with that additional item.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes were approved as submitted.

Summary Report: Brian Lorch noted that per recommendation of the Attorney's Office, items under contract will no longer be included on the Summary Report. The OSAC asked about the current status of the 188 Lee Lane property - this was a TDR lot that was raised as a potential property of interest - additional discussion to occur during Executive Session. Brian updated OSAC that things are moving along with the Continental Divide claims - Anna Bengston provided a status update as well and noted that procedurally, things are on track. Additional discussion included the Copper Canyon property - Anne Murphy noted the Town is looking to address parking challenges and may formalize things a bit more with a trailhead or a couple of parking spots, as well as "No Overnight Parking" signage.

Public Comments not included on the Agenda : None.

REGULAR AGENDA:

Election of Officers: The OSAC made a unanimous motion to maintain the same OSAC officers as currently hold the position - Turk Montepare as Chairperson, and Todd Rankin as Vice Chairperson.

Discussion of Open Space Management Activities:

Forestry Management: Brian Lorch provided an overview of a plan to roll out a forest management plan with several partners in April 2020. The plan will include a mechanism for property owners adjacent to open space to access it to address defensible space goals. None of the partners foresee a fiscal impact. An open house is scheduled for March 25th, 4-6pm, and the Town of Breckenridge (TOB) plans to put a flyer out soon. Through this process, the TOB will also work to build awareness of the Wellington Timber Cuts and Peak 7 cuts, by advertising through social media and neighborhood pages as well. A press release is planned for mid-April. OSAC discussed the merits of the program and are supportive of this effort.

Open Space Protection Plan: Brian Lorch updated the OSAC that staff are recommending applying for a GOCO Planning Grant for assistance in hiring a contractor to assist with the Open Space Protection Plan update. Given GOCO's June deadline, the update schedule will be pushed back a bit.

State of the Open Space Report: Brian Lorch provided an overview of the State of the Open Space report, which highlights 2019 OST program accomplishments, and overall program accomplishments to date. The OSAC touted the program's successes and the extent of land protected through acquisitions and easements. Turk Montepare acknowledged that GOCO grants are becoming much more competitive and land is getting more expensive - "It's good we've been doing what we've been doing." During the discussion, Brian Lorch updated that OSAC that the district court dismissed the case against the BOCC from Rock Island, LLC, which owns the Mascot Placer directly adjacent and upstream of the Swan River Restoration Project site. Brian Lorch also noted that Good Times Tours took over the dog sled operation, which has shared property with the snowmobile tour operation for quite some time. During the summer, the dog sleds (pulling golf carts) cross over Open Space properties and staff are recommending that summer dog sledding is added to Good Times' permit.

Discussion of Recpath Management:

Fremont Pass Recpath: Construction is scheduled to commence in spring 2020. A liquidated damages clause in the contract directs the contractor to complete the project in its entirety by late October 2020.

County Road 450/Huron Road: The project was bid and the apparent low bidder came in under the engineer's cost estimate. Construction is anticipated to commence in June.

Capacity Analysis: Jason provided a presentation and overview of a recently completed recreational capacity analysis for the Dillon Reservoir Recreation Area and Dillon Reservoir. The analysis and report provides a qualitative and quantitative evaluation of the recreational use, along with several recommendations to address existing and anticipated future challenges related to Recpath use, Dillon Reservoir Recreation Area use, and the permitting systems. The OSAC discussed at length challenges related to parking at major trailheads, access points, and elsewhere, and that measures including paid parking need to be considered in order to address this growing issue.

Executive Session to Discuss Acquisition of Real Property Interests: A motion was made to enter into Executive Session, and it was seconded. OSAC entered into Executive Session at 6:41 p.m. A motion was made to exit Executive Session and seconded. OSAC leaves Executive Session at 7:13 p.m.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Lorch

Brian Lorch, Open Space and Trails Director