

**Manitou Springs  
Open Space Advisory Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Monday, August 22, 2011**

Members Present: Jim Yount (Chair), Gary Michels (Vice Chair), Marc Straub (Secretary), Randy Hodges, Tom Fears, Ben Kinsley, Nancy Fortuin; Dan Folke (Planning staff), Matt Carpenter (CC liason).

**I. Call to Order, Announcement of Member Openings and Election of Officers**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM. Openings remain for 2 Alternate members (Nancy Fortuin new Alternate).

**II. Approval of Minutes**

2. The Minutes for the July 25, 2011 Regular Meeting were approved by consensus.

**III. Agenda Review and Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

3. No changes to the agenda. No public comments.

**IV. New Business**

4. *Update on Manitou Springs Forward and Focus Groups.* David Chorpenning gave an overview and update of Manitou Springs Forward, which is an effort to update the Rainbow Vision Plan prepared in 2000 (and originally intended to be updated 5 years later). They kicked off the Community Input phase on June 26, and are now entering the Focus Group phase. They will also form a City Council advisory committee (Manitou Springs Forward Steering Committee). Dan encouraged OSAC members to sign up for a Focus Group session.

**V. Old Business**

5. *Iron Mountain GOCO Grant Update.* Dan has submitted the new application to GOCO. He added more information, including quotes for removal and recycling the house. Habitat for Humanity can salvage as much as possible, then dismantling and restoring the site should cost about \$30,000. He will include these costs as part of the local cash match. He also included two citizen's letters of support (including Dan Stuart, an adjacent property owner), and stressed the urgency this time due to the impending closing date. The final decision is expected in December.

6. *Manitou Incline Management Plan Update.* The Barr Trailhead parking lot kiosk is now installed and operating (expected to generate as much as \$400/day). Pedestrian lane striping on Ruxton Ave. is completed as well. Next up will be developing a Ruxton Ave. residential paid parking plan.

The railroad abandonment issue continues to hold up completion of the IGA. The Cog Railway is working on a license agreement to exchange up to 16 parking lot spaces nearest the base of the incline for street parking spaces to allow construction of various trailhead facilities. Matt and Dan visited the site with Eric Billmeyer from the Rocky Mountain Field Institute to estimate costs and plan for revegetating the current social trail area. Both were encouraged by Eric's assessment.

7. Review of OSAC Initiatives:

b) *Area 1: Ute Pass Regional Trail Update-* some local residents are objecting to the county's plans for a trail access point and parking area in Cascade. El Paso County is studying the issue and will hold future public meetings.

c) *Area 2:* Dan and Gary met with the Palmer Land Trust for the required Red Mountain Stewardship site visit, which went well.

e) *Area 4:* An Iron Mountain site visit is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, September 18 at 9 AM.

f) *Area 5:* A Section 15 Master Plan meeting will be held on September 7 to discuss integrating Section 16, White Acres and Red Rocks Canyon open spaces. Jim will send an email with more info.

No other updates.

## **VI. Other Business**

9. *Financial Statement.* The July 31, 2011 OSAC financial statement was presented. The ending cash balance was \$77,242.87 .

10. *Answer General OSAC Questions.* No questions.

## **VII. Adjournment**

Adjourned meeting at 8:53 PM.