

SUMMIT COUNTY
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COUNCIL
SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

January 6, 2021
Meeting Held by Zoom Conference

OSAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Turk Montepare, Laura Rossetter, Bob Gregory, John Uban, John Taylor, Todd Rankin, Diane Hunt, Art Hardin, Terry Craig, Bruce Fitch, Jeff Leigh

OSAC MEMBERS ABSENT: All members present.

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Lorch, Jason Lederer, Christine Zenel, Jim Curnutte

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC PRESENT: Danelle Cook – Town of Silverthorne, Anne Lowe – Town of Breckenridge, Pete Swenson – Town of Frisco, Peter Grosshuesch – Member of the Public

Call to Order: Turk Montepare called the meeting of the Summit County Open Space Advisory Council to order at 5:35 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes were approved as submitted.

Bruce Fitch made a motion to approve the agenda and minutes and Art Hardin seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Approval of Summary Report: The summary report was approved as submitted. Brian Loch added an additional item to the report for discussion: whether to keep the Doig Homestead Cabin on Open Space or allow an interested individual to take ownership of it and move it to his property. No decision was made, but the OSAC leans towards keeping the cabin because of its representation as a historic homestead with stunning views of the Lower Blue Basin. Improving pedestrian access to the cabin in the future would allow a short hike with a historic destination, a rarity in the Lower Blue Basin. Staff will pursue more research of this cabin.

Laura Rossetter provided compliments on staff's new winter recreation messaging and outreach efforts in addition to efforts to allow public parking at the 7th Street Church (Church of Christ) in Frisco, expanding parking for the Rainbow Lakes/Peak One Trails.

Public Comments not included on the Agenda: None.

REGULAR AGENDA:

Discussion of Open Space Management Activities:

Dillon Reservoir Recreation Area (DRRA) Capacity Analysis: Jason Lederer provided an update on the DRRA capacity analysis completed in early 2020 in addition to new trail counter data collected over the 2020 summer season. The main recommendation out of the capacity analysis, completed in collaboration with SE Group, is to monitor use at the DRRA over time. Use of the DRRA has increased annually from 2016-2020 in the 10-15% range, then jumped by 50% in 2020. (The Keystone Recpath data was excluded from the summer 2020 data due to trail counter errors which have since been fixed.) Summer 2020 data shows that while peak use days such as weekends are maintained, use is getting "broader". That is, mid-week use is increasing, making high use more consistent over time. The duration of the peak season was also greatly extended in 2020 with September and October numbers rivaling August 2020. This data is consistent with user perceptions and data from other trails and recreation managers throughout

the State, and will be important to consider when making future management decisions Countywide.

Open Space Staff Updates: Jason Lederer announced his departure from Open Space & Trails for a new position in Seattle, WA. He has been an invaluable asset to the program, most notably contributing to the Swan River Restoration Project and the construction of the Fremont Pass Recpath.

2021 OSAC Appointments: Turk Montepare (Upper Blue Basin), Bob Gregory (At-Large), John Taylor (Lower Blue Basin), and Art Hardin (At-Large) all have terms expiring and have requested to be reappointed. The OSAC received four applications for these appointments. After discussion without the presence of those whose terms are expiring, the OSAC will recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that all four sitting members be reappointed, with the addition of two new OSAC members to the max 13-member limit, recommended to be filled by Paul Semmer and Peter Grosshuesch.

Discussion of Recpath Management: See above notes on the DRRA Capacity Analysis.

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 6:34p.m. A motion was made to exit Executive Session and seconded. OSAC leaves Executive Session at 7:07p.m.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:08p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Lorch

Brian Lorch, Open Space and Trails Director