

**CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Council Chambers – 606 Manitou Avenue Monday, January 28, 2019, 6:30 pm**

**Members Present:** Michael Maio, Chair; Sheryl Cline, Secretary; Gary Michels, Sue Graham, Shannon Solomon, Che Freeman

**Members Absent:** Nancy Wilson, Vice Chair; T.J. Maltese, Alternate

**PARAB:** Chris Grow and Tim Bresnahan, co-representatives to OSAC

**Staff:** Kimberly Johnson, Planning Director, Dylan Becker, Planner I

**Council Liaison:** Becky Elder, Absent

**Others Present:** Carol Beckman, Friends of the Peak; Candace Hall and Gary Conover, Palmer Land Trust

**I. CALL TO ORDER & ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEMBER OPENINGS**

- A. The meeting was called to order by Chair M. Maio at 6:30 p.m.
- B. Two Alternates Needed

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. November 26, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes - After two corrections in the last sentence of Sheep Mountain Trail agenda item ("N. Wilson vs. I" and "Sheep vs. Iron", S. Cline moved and C. Freeman seconded approval. Minutes approved.

B. January 12, 2019 Retreat Minutes- After a correction in the heading ( Minutes vs. Agenda), S. Solomon moved and G. Michels seconded approval. Minutes approved.

**III. AGENDA REVIEW and PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**IV. PARKS & REC ADVISORY BOARD (PARAB) UPDATE – including, but not limited to:**

- A. Complete urban forestry plan
- B. Re-apply for grant for Soda Springs-west end development
- C. Continue POST master plan: pocket parks, Wheeler Park, work with D-14 and local groups
- D. Continue work on Creek Walk
- E. Complete report, available through PARAB

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Waldo Canyon Report-C. Freeman and S. Solomon
  - 1. Waldo Canyon Re-Imagine Community Workshop, held 1/16/19 with 200+ in attendance. Each small group of attendees agreed upon the three most important things they would like to see considered as the Plan is developed. Summary was included in the OSAC packet for 1/28/19. This is an 18 month process before presenting findings to the U.S. Government. NOTE: Forestry Service representatives were absent due

to the U.S. Government shutdown re: funding controversy for The Wall-U.S. southwest border).

2. Complete report, with summary of 18 small groups' responses, available at [waldocanyonplanning.com](http://waldocanyonplanning.com). (Next meeting: 4/17/19, 6-8:30 p.m., Westside Community Center, (last meeting this year: October 23)

B. Rainbow Falls-M. Maio

1. As opposed to the MECA report in OSAC packet of 1/28/19, there is still some graffiti as of the previous weekend.
2. Funding now available for hiring a docent/caretaker who will handle graffiti.
3. M. Maio had received an email re: some movement to connect Creek Walk to Rainbow Falls Overlook.
4. Manitou Environmental Citizens Action (MECA) Save the Date: 2/23/19 for a winter open trail day.

C. Three positions expiring on 3-31 and openings for alternates-M. Maio

1. Reviewed the process for re-applying and new applicants, including but not limited to: approach chair of OSAC, send a letter of interest to Donna Kast, City Clerk, to be included in City Council packet prior to next meeting. This process is included in the Proposed Ordinance regarding the administration of Boards, Committees, and Commissions. (See packet).

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review of Proposed Ordinance regarding the administration of Boards, Committees and Commissions-M. Maio.

1. See proposed amendments/additions are included in the OSAC packet. Send comments/suggestions to M.Maio to be returned to N. Fortuin. Included in the proposal are the processes for applying, extending and removing members of boards, committees, and commissions.

B. Report-Land Acquisitions and Donations - Peakview properties and Edwards parcels - M. Maio, G. Michels and S. Solomon

1. Musso property closed on 11-26-18 for \$150,000; S. Solomon has not reached the buyer, Blake Allen, to discuss construction loan of \$750,000 and his intentions.
2. Reviewed El Paso Co. Assessor's and City maps re: properties.
3. M. Maio will write letters to property owners to explore their interest in donating their land to the City.

C. Report-Trail and Open Spaces Maintenance - T.J. Maltese, S. Solomon, and G. Michels

1. Guest - Carol Beckman, representing Friends of the Peak, presented on noxious and invasive weeds, including Myrtle Spurge, which is on Colorado's "List A" noxious weeds which requires it to be eradicated and prevented from propagating. Myrtle Spurge is a succulent spurge, is aggressive and proliferates easily, growing in people's yards and outcompetes native plants, with a toxic milky sap (requiring full

protection). She reports April as the best time for eradication/mitigation and that there is no 100% kill rate method. Beckman recommends an education campaign: "Purge the Spurge." G. Michels recommends a survey of what we need. S. Solomon moved, seconded by S. Graham:

Be it moved to approve a contract with Mile High Youth Corp (MHYC) to remove noxious and invasive weeds at a cost not to exceed \$4200, to encompass a 3-day work week, subject to required City's procurement policy. The motion carried 5:1, with G. Michels opposing.

2. Proposal for trail maintenance by Mile High Youth Corps: Motion by C. Freemon and seconded by S. Solomon passed: Be it so moved that OSAC will commit to the project of the relocation of Intemann Trail, removal of steps, closure of existing trail, and to provide access to communities along Midland Avenue corridor, subject to provision of a plan by Manitou Cats and final approval by OSAC.

- a. S. Cline forwarded the motion language to M. Maio on 1/29/19 who would forward the proposal to Shanti Toll, Manitou Cats, who also has some resources to contribute.
- b. S. Solomon, G. Michels, & M. Maio will meet and discuss with S. Toll to share the OSAC intention to do the project & develop a plan.
- c. Resources are also available through Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates. S. Solomon will meet with MWTA chair, Corey Sutella, to discuss their resources. Connectivity is the goal.

D. Report - Signage-S. Graham, M. Maio

1. A handout in the packet reviewed signage sub-committee (N. Fortuin, S. Graham, S. Cline) progress dating from 3/24/17 with a 3-phase approach. Per S. Graham, Robert Houdek and Dave Wolverton are working on the project.
2. S. Graham will ask Houdek and Wolverton for a proposal and prototypes to be presented at the February 25 meeting.
3. S. Solomon will ask Forestry Service volunteer coordinators, Oscar Martinez and Josh Vonloh, for information and bring to February meeting.

E. Update - Management Plans for Iron Mountain and Black Canyon Cultural Assets  
- D. Becker

1. D. Becker reported that Request for Proposals (RFP) have been drafted for both Iron Mt. and Black Canyon Cultural Assets.
2. Black Canyon Cultural Assets: wasn't enough funds originally. State Licensed Bernard Schriever would like to collaborate with Steve Snyder and M. Maio to volunteer his services. Per K. Johnson: need Scope of Work/Cultural Assets Inventory.
3. Candace Hall, Palmer Land Trust, will send PLT former & 2018 reports (in which OSAC members including G Michels, M. Maio, S. Cline, D. Becker walked the properties with the PLT intern) to M. Maio.

4. K. Johnson will discuss the PLT reports with OSAC at February 25 meeting, i.e. how conditions have changed, whether a need to hire consultant for management plans, etc.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm by Chair M. Maio, after an election by OSAC to begin future meetings at 6:00 p.m., beginning with the February meeting.