

Snowmass Capitol Creek Caucus Board Meeting
October 20, 2020
Zoom conference, hosted by David Chase, President

CALL TO ORDER

Board members present: David Chase, Molly Child, Helene Slansky, George Johnson, Vicki Treece, Chris Collins, Glenn Russell, Jill Sabella

Guests;

Mitch Haas
Aviva Rubin
Lonnie Blanchard
Kathy Weber DeWolfe
Mike Albert, Design Workshop
Jessica Terrevault, DW
Marianne Stuck, DW
Venessa Zarate, DW
Thomaz Regatos
Mark Grotjahn
Jeffrey Schwartz, Bear@Door
Steve Child
Anne Tobey
Shayla Groves

NEW BUSINESS

Steve informed the Caucus he withdrew (recused himself) from the BOCC to work with Mark Grotjahn/Bear at Door, and to join this meeting. He will recuse himself again when the BOCC votes on Bear at Door.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Helene to approve the minutes of Sept 8, 2020 . George seconded. All approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Vicki reported the total in both accounts currently is \$42,833.47 with \$20,352.96 in the unrestricted account and \$22,480.51 in the restricted Snowmass water work account.

Income was a gift of \$1,000 from the William Ewing Fund. The major expense is from Great American Insurance: executive protection and EPL yearly policy.

Vicki brought up the topic of fundraising thru a mailing. Since the permit for non-profit bulk rate needs to be renewed in early November, and since the response from the annual fundraising letter is not significant, she suggested, switching to fundraising thru the website. Vicki felt the Caucus does need to get a letter out summarizing what the Caucus has done this past year. Molly suggested doing a postcard mailing asap to alert members to the switch to the website for all information, including fundraising.

David asked Shayla, the Caucus' website designer, for her opinion about using Constant Contact. Shayla said the response to Constant Contact has been good. But that sending a postcard announcing the new website and getting an update on email addresses would be a good idea.

Vicki, Molly and Helene offered to work as a committee and organize a postcard mailing to inform members that postal mailings will be phased out and to ask for current email addresses.

COMMUNICATIONS

New Website

Shayla spoke on the design of the new Snowmass Capitol Creek Caucus website which was launched October 14th (snowcapcaucus.org) and it's two goals:

1. to increase outreach with easier navigation
2. make the site a user-friendly experience more engaging - with photos, new page design, tools to bring neighbors together, and easy access with i-phones, computers, etc.

Besides doing a thorough revision of the site, also added was a valley artists' link - sourcing section. There is planning for an additional section featuring local valley histories, as well as other interests presented by the Board and Caucus members. All new information will be updated by a Caucus committee or through Shayla.

Elections

David asked the Board to resubmit their own names and to nominate others in the valley who would be interested in being on the Board.

Land Use

Review of Bear at Door, Second Reiteration

Mitch Haas, principal planner, presented the revised plan stating the new activity envelope does not impinge on the wetland and that it will leave the Conservation Easement area unaffected and not effect Nicholson Creek Road. There will be clustering of the new development into a compound. The access road off Capitol Creek Road will avoid the wetland and old sagebrush areas and has a bridge. They have taken steps to reduce the visual impacts. All agricultural builds will sit low on the landscape and the main house is now located beyond the agricultural buildings. The new house site is 16-20' lower than the old site. There is now a wide unobstructed view corridor thru the buildings to Haystack Mountain.

Also, as presented the current proposal:

Preserves Conservation Easement and conservation values; Clusters development in the form of traditional ranching compound in previously disturbed areas; Reduces potential visual impacts; Removes Lot 2 development from Nicholson Creek Road; Eliminates and avoids all wetland impacts; Restores disturbed landscape; and there are no vested rights extensions.

Mike Albert of Design Workshop, spoke on the vegetation, plantings and driveway and maintaining open views, building upon existing ecology and working with existing landforms, like the old Gambel oak groves. Mark wants to improve the land using natural vegetations.

Chris questioned how the Green Meadow ditch would be protected from cattle and horses when there is an agricultural building next to the ditch. His concern is that with intensive livestock grazing, you need to protect the ditch. Mitch commented there would be fencing if needed; Mark said the "barn" would be used for equipment primarily, and as a CDU.

The pond to be built in the meadow south of the main residence was discussed. David asked if it would have use as fire suppression and have wildlife benefits.

Mitch said they will have an underground water system for fire protection.
George commented that historically ponds were not used for wildlife or fire.
Steve said a good use for the pond water would be for irrigation around the houses.

Vested Rights go to 9/2022 and there are still options before it expires. However, not dealing with vested rights now makes it easier to get approval .

David complimented the Bear at Door group for a magnificent job in recasting their proposal, that the proposal is acceptable, and to take our opinion back to the County.
Mitch said next they will take it to the County and would like to take a supportive position from the Caucus.

Molly offered that she and Steve are relieved, and are very happy with Mitch and Mike's involvement, and that they whole-heartedly supportive the revised plans. Steve commented that the original plan didn't meet the scenic view plans and that Mark had made compromises. He said this plan meets all the requirements. One concern had been where the new road was to enter, and Steve suggested a gate be built to keep the cows out, but that they support the new plan 100%. He added that the new story poles sit 15' lower than those at the old site.

George made a motion that the Caucus approve the conceptional plan presented by Bear at Door. Helene seconded the motion. All approved.

Chris asked the Caucus Board to send any additional letters of concern to him.

David commented the Caucus Board will be getting a County revision of this plan for comment at a later date.

David moved to adjourn. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.