SCCC Minutes 1.16.24 FINAL DRAFT

The meeting was held at the Snowmass Firestation with the option of Zoom

Board members present: Ned Andrews, Molly Child, Michael Kinsley, Judy Lovins, Jen Rupert

On Zoom: David Chase, Judy Frey, Jill Sabella

Guests on Zoom: Jeannie Perry (Snowmass Falls Ranch), Forrest Thomas (Darling Farms), Sharon Caulfield

CONSENT AGENDA: Minutes and Treasurer’s Report

David moved to approve the Minutes of 1212.23 and the Treasurer’s report and Jen seconded. All approved.

The Treasurer’s report showed a total of $42,511.08 with $34,129.38 in the Unrestricted Funds and $8,381.70 in the Water Studies Fund. Income for this period ending 12.31.23 was $2,750 from donations. There were no expenses.

NEW BOARD OFFICERS

Ned moved to open nominations for new officers after the recent election, commenting that David and Jill have served in the past and will maintain their offices for now as Vice Chair and Secretary. Ned accepted the position of Board Chair and all approved. Molly nominated Johno McBride as new Vice Chair and David seconded. If Johno accepts, David offered to run meetings when necessary if Johno is unavailable. All were in favor. Judy Lovins accepted the nomination to continue as Treasurer and all were in favor. Jill agreed to continue as Secretary with Molly as a backup “team”, and all were in favor.

LAND DEVELOPMENT

McCabe Ranch Tract 4 LLC

David commented that the McCabe Ranch Architectural Committee had unanimously approved the application and had reviewed it for the past 2 1/2 years.

Molly asked confirmation that it was 5.570 plus additional CDU, and confirmation was given.

David moved approval of the application and Ned asked that McCabe Ranch write approval to to the County which David will do. Jill seconded the motion. All approved, so it will be forwarded to the County.

Fevaag Ranch

The property is on the corner of Highway 82 and Snowmass Creek Road, with the proposed building site being approximately 100 feet west of the creek. CDOT will not permit driveway entry to the property off of 82 so part of the application is moving the driveway to come off Snowmass Creek Road. There are two major ditches running through the property and the north side of Light Hill comes down steeply on the west side of the property.

Michael commented it was the worst land application he’s seen. He said it’s a beautiful jungle area and putting a road into the proposed limited area for residential development would do significant damage.

Molly questioned disruption of the existing wildlife corridor which crosses lower Snowmass Creek in the area of the proposed driveway - used by mountain lion, deer and wild turkey - and inevitable damage to the riparian zone. Putting in a driveway off lower Snowmass Creek Road would be hazardous because of regular and often times heavy traffic on lower Snowmass Creek Road.

David wished the County could sterilize that lot and Jen brought up an interesting point about the unfortunate aspects of people buying lots that really shouldn’t be built on and whether we can do anything about that. Ned wondered how best to express the Caucus’ concerns to the county. Michael will draft a letter to the County about these concerns and Martha and Ned will review it.

DARK SKIES

David spoke on the upcoming Dark Skies event at ACES on January 31st that Martha has orchestrated and thanked her for her work on our application for Dark Skies designation. David said further testing of the public interest in our Dark Skies designation will be noted when Jeff Hall of the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff comes in May to speak in depth about Dark Skies. This event will be either at TACAW or the Basalt library.

Judy Lovins, as treasurer, spoke on the need to outreach to the younger valley residents to participate in the Caucus and Ned stressed the desire to have younger residents on the Board.

Judy commented that Amory Lovins would like to speak to the Board about the airport enlargement plan. A February or March meeting will be considered.

David Moved to adjourn. Judy Lovins seconded. All in favor.