

## Snowmass Capitol Creek Caucus Board Meeting Minutes of June 19, 2018

### Snowmass Fire Station Annex

Board members present: David Chase, Michael Kinsley, Helene Slansky, Jeffrey Woodruff, Vicki Treece, Chris Collins, Jill Sabella

Guests: Larry Treece, Christina and Rob Krakovitz, Mike and Danielle Stark, Monty Thompson

Quorum was established at 7 pm

#### Public Comments

Discussion about the tipis on McBride property up Light Hill. These tipis were put up by John McBride for the Huts for Vets program for use this summer as part of their program in the valley. There was concern about campfires at the tipis but there will be no fires allowed.

Discussion about the Windstar Preserve limiting access to visitors by having the gate closed, to presumably reduce access to the new Hildebrand barn located on the main road up the Preserve. The question concerns the accessibility of the public and whether the owners have a correct understanding as per Windstar Preserve agreement. This issue of closure will be dealt with by Aspen Valley Land Trust (which manages the Windstar Conservancy) and Pitkin County Open Space & Trails.

#### Approval of Minutes

David moved to approve the minutes from last meeting. Chris seconded.

#### Treasurers Report

Vicki reported a total of \$41,844.44 in the Caucus account, with \$16,863.93 in the unrestricted account and \$24,980.57 in the count restricted for Snowmass Creek water work.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Land Use

Mike Stark, caretaker and dog owner (10 dogs) at the White Tip Ranch at 6801 Capitol Creek Road, made a presentation of his credentials in animal behavior and wildlife. He is asking the BOCC to revisit their decision to deny changing the dog prohibition laws on that property and is asking the Caucus for support. The BOCC has denied Stark's application previously.

He stated the greatest dangers to wildlife are: 1- humans, 2- humans with dogs, 3- dogs.

Discussion about the "sphere of influence" surrounding a wildlife area and whether and how best to determine if and how wildlife is impacted by dogs. All want a solution with "fairness and equity" since the surrounding parcels allow working dogs.

There was discussion that the SCCC is not the party to adjudicate, only to advise.

Michael addressed the history of the subdivision of parcels and the dog restrictions in this migratory/reproduction area and to minimize human impact on the valley. Discussion that restrictions should be kept in place whenever possible - unless non-partial wildlife experts agree dogs would not affect wildlife, and also that the danger would be eroding safeguards for wildlife little by little.

The Snowmass Capitol Creek Caucus reaffirmed its position, taken at its April 17, 2018 meeting, that the BOCC sustain its existing policy respecting (regarding) dog restrictions on parcels within the Caucus area. This included (Includes?) the White Tip Ranch. The basis for these restrictions, wildlife migration corridors and elk calving areas, remains an important component in the maintenance of critical habitat areas within the Caucus.

The Caucus requests that the BOCC revisit their policies on dog restrictions within all caucuses to ensure that they remain relevant in today's environment of increased urbanization within the County, and the reality that many more people are utilizing back country areas causing increasing pressure on wildlife.

#### Fun-d Raising

The annual Snowmass Capitol Creek Caucus picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 25th, 5-8 pm at the McCabe Ranch.

McCabe Ranch will provide burgers, hot dogs, soft drinks, condiments etc. as they did last year. Capitol Creek Brewery will be asked to contribute a keg again.

At the next caucus meeting we will discuss what food contributions caucus board members bring to the picnic.

#### Marijuana Issue

There was discussion of what position the SCCC should take with regards to the new Joint Caucus' 5-year moratorium recommendation to the BOCC regarding grow facilities in the caucus areas in Pitkin County and whether to join/endorse that moratorium or not.

Currently the SCCC Master Plan Prohibits "Marijuana Retail Outlets & Processing Facilities" and states a Special Review for "Commercial Marijuana Cultivation".

There are presently only two buildings in valley now that would be suitable for cultivation — at the Monastery and the McCabe Ranch, and neither of those would be used.

Vicki read a letter stating her concerns about marijuana cultivation. She addressed the need to clarify what a "Special Review" means, safety and security issues, effect on minors, and the possibility of absentee owners as growers with a for-profit motive, rather than locals, and she encouraged supporting the moratorium with the Joint Caucus.

Christina Krakovitz read a letter of her concerns on marijuana cultivation which addressed youth effected, night lighting, mold produced, and rivers polluted by fertilizers.

Vicki made a motion to support the Joint Caucus' extension of the moratorium. David seconded the motion. A vote was taken: 2 in favor; 5 oppose. Motion did not pass.

Chris Collins made motion to reaffirm the Master Plan. Jill seconded the motion. A vote was taken: one opposed; six in favor. Motion passed.

The Caucus thus reaffirmed the position stated in its 2017 Master Plan that commercial marijuana cultivation may be considered within the Caucus area by Special Review and that retail marijuana outlets and processing facilities are Prohibited. The Caucus Board respects the position of other caucuses in encouraging the BOCC to extend the Marijuana Moratorium.

David moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.