

Snowmass Capitol Creek Caucus Board Meeting Minutes of December 19, 2017
Snowmass Fire Station Annex

Board Members Present: Aaron Oakley, George Johnson, Michael Kinsley, Jeffrey Woodruff, David Chase, Jill Sabella. Chris Collins was present by remote.

Guests: Meredith Oakley, Monty Thompson, Pila Xian, Kathy DeWolf, Jennie Curtis, Chris Bergerud

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kinsley addressed the Aspen Valley Ranch's appeal to the county to change the lighting plan at that subdivision and add substantial lighting. The county had initially denied the proposal. Michael's concern is this would set a new precedent for more and brighter lighting throughout the county, including SnowCap Caucus area. Concern is the preservation of night skies. George suggested instead of a constant light, have motion triggered lighting. Chris commented there exists a "national dark sky policy" for safety for kids, tractors... and the need for the county to look at their night light policy. Michael proposed to request the BOCC to deny the appeal by Aspen Valley Ranch to expand its external lighting. The caucus supports the Pitkin County's night-sky policy and regards the AVR appeal as inconsistent with that policy. Further, the caucus feels that, if this appeal were successful, it would create a precedent that would force the county to approve similar applications in the future, including in our caucus area.

All in favor.

Unanimous.

Chelsea had expressed support for Michael's proposal in an email, and Chris approved the proposal via remote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

\$40,125.88 in the SCCC checking account.

\$25,985.51 earmarked for Snowmass water work

Four donations this month totaling \$1,075

Withdrawals of \$595 for election and the Good Neighbor letter mailings

COMMUNICATION

Aaron will pass the SCCC website ownership to Jeffrey.

ELECTION

Elected caucus board members for 2018 are:

Chris Bergerud, David Chase, Chris Collins, George Johnson, Michael Kinsley, Jill Sabella, Helene Slansky, Vicki Treece, Jeffrey Woodruff

LAND USE

Thunder Develop LLC Activity Envelope and Site Plan were reviewed. Monty Thompson, owner, presented drawings and plans. The existing structure which is close to the creek and above the flood plain is to be demolished except for the end section, then that will be connected to new structure further back from creek. A proposed caretaker unit would replace the small barn. The board felt it was a good upgrade on the existing site and approved preserving the old growth trees next to the existing building.

David made a motion that the board approve the proposed activity envelope and site plan but reserve final judgment on the architectural aspect until later when drawings have been made. Michael seconded the motion with the suggested amendment that the applicant be required to restore native riparian vegetation along the streamside.

An amendment was made to the motion that the applicant be required to restore the flood plain area to native riparian vegetation.

All in favor.

Motion passed

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David proposed that the board approve the applicant's activity and site plan as presented subject to further review of the architectural plans

Motion passed with one opposed. Minority opinion is that no structure should remain within Snowmass Creek setback.

WATER

Chelsea is continuing to work on her own with the Snowmass Water & Sanitation Board - with the general manager and board chair - to see if we can get a long term operational goal to protect the flows of Snowmass Creek for all of the analysis and advocacy we have done over the years. Current water committee efforts focus with George to convene the Water Committee and a group of main irrigators on Capitol Creek in January.

MASTER PLAN

No comments submitted on most recent Master Plan draft. David moved to approve final draft written as of December 19, 2017.

George seconded the motion.

All in favor. Motion passed.

January 16, 2018 is the P&Z's SnowCap Master Plan public hearing at 5 pm.

Aaron suggested delaying the next board meeting until Jan 23 so to not overlap with the P&Z meeting on the 16th.

Aaron offered to help the new incoming board set up and distribute the agenda in January. Two current officers will be leaving the board - Chelsea and Aaron.

Aaron moved to adjourn the meeting.

David seconded