

TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION
Monday, February 15, 2010
ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM, BRECKENRIDGE TOWN HALL
150 Ski Hill Road

- 5:30 Call to Order, Roll Call
- 5:35 Discussion/approval of Minutes – January 18, 2010
- 5:40 Discussion/approval of Agenda
- 5:45 Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)
- 5:50 Staff Summary
- Summer Trail Map Update
 - Upper Blue Nordic Master Plan Update
 - Hidden Gems Update
 - Wellington Oro Water Treatment Plant Costs
- 6:15 Open Space and Trails
- Unpatented Mining Claims
 - Dog Waste and Other Signage
- 7:30 Commissioner Issues
- 7:35 Adjourn

For further information, please contact the Open Space and Trails Program at 547.3110 (Heide) or 547.3155 (Scott).

Memorandum

To: Breckenridge Open Space Advisory Commission
From: Heide Andersen, Open Space and Trails Planner III
Mark Truckey, Asst. Director of Community Development
Scott Reid, Open Space and Trails Planner II
Re: February 15, 2010 meeting

Staff Summary**Summer Trail Map Update**

Staff has been making progress on the summer trail map project. Since the previous BOSAC meeting, staff has been working closely with the trail map subcommittee to hire a graphic design firm (McGraphix Creative), meet with area bike shop owners to outline the proposal, complete the coding for the trails layer, and refine the map's scale and background. The trail map subcommittee is scheduled to meet on 2/17 to outline the recommended trail loops, review trail names and difficulty ratings, preview the map background, discuss trail loop markings, and outline some of the necessary language for the map. Staff will keep BOSAC informed of progress on this project.

Upper Blue Nordic Master Plan Update

Staff has been working with the Upper Blue Nordic Master Plan Committee consisting of Town staff (from Community Development, Recreation and Gold Run Nordic Center), BOSAC, County and Forest Service staff, and representatives from the Summit Nordic Club (masters and youth). This group has met twice and progressed in determining a group mission, user group definitions, and the scope of the revised master plan. The revised plan will cover the Upper Blue Basin and address both groomed and ungroomed experiences. It will evaluate the values and characteristics of the trail systems we have now and make recommendations about proposed enhancements or changes. Staff will continue to keep BOSAC apprised of this process.

Hidden Gems Update

At their January 26th meeting, Town Council made a significant change to the Hidden Gems letter coming from the Town. This change requires that the wilderness proposal include a companion designation to garner Town support. The companion designation would allow for non-motorized use (including mountain biking) and necessary fire mitigation and watershed protection activities, but would otherwise be similar in land protection to wilderness. Town staff will likely be involved in the initial crafting of the language for the companion designation.

Wellington Oro Water Treatment Plant Costs

BOSAC requested more detail regarding the annual operating costs for the Wellington Oro Water Treatment Plant. Attached is an email from the Town Engineering department outlining these costs for 2009.

Open Space and Trails

Unpatented Mining Claims

During the past year, Town, County and U.S. Forest Service staffs have become aware of individuals filing unpatented mining claims throughout the Golden Horseshoe. These claims are located on both federal and open space lands. The Forest Service has been striving to track down these individuals to communicate with them about the rights, restrictions, and regulations related to these claims.

Attached is a letter from District Ranger Jan Cutts to potential unpatented claim holders. Staff will provide BOSAC with a broad overview of the issues and concerns related to this activity.

Dog Waste and Other Signage

As requested at the previous BOSAC meeting, staff is working to design and install dog waste signage at some trailheads frequented by dog walkers. The goal is to encourage dog walkers to pick up and remove the dog waste and educate them as to why this practice helps preserve open space values. Staff has previously worked with the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics in Boulder to help design and produce “frontcountry” educational materials to address this and several other pertinent issues. Although using this information requires the Town to become a member of this non-profit organization, staff sees great value in using a consistent, well-thought out, nationwide message that has been successfully implemented in other communities.

Staff will provide some samples of the educational content and requests that BOSAC provide direction to staff regarding the use of this program.

- 1. Does BOSAC agree with staff that the Leave No Trace program offers a good opportunity to implement a well crafted educational message on open space?*
- 2. Does BOSAC support staff proceeding with a partnership to design and install educational signage on select trails and trailheads in French Gulch?*

Roll Call

Dennis Kuhn called the January 18, 2010 BOSAC meeting to order at 5:35 pm. Other BOSAC members present included Scott Yule, Monique Merrill, Ellen Hollinshead, Erin Hunter, Jeff Cospolich, and Peter Joyce. Staff members present were Heide Andersen, Scott Reid, Mark Truckey, Peter Grosshuesch, and Diane McBride.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved as presented.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was rearranged to place the Gold Run Nordic Center item last to accommodate a scheduling challenge.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Open Space and Trails

Trail Map Update

Mr. Reid provided an overview of the trail map update.

Mr. Kuhn: What is the targeted release date for the map? (Prior to Memorial Day, but this is also highly dependent on the release date of the Travel Management Plan by the USFS.) What will we do if the USFS release is delayed? Can we publish it with a caveat that a decision is forthcoming and may not match this map? (Staff will work with the USFS and Summit County to clarify a plan B.)

Upper Blue Nordic Plan Revision

Ms. Andersen outlined the Upper Blue Nordic Plan revision process. The oversight group currently includes Diane McBride, Zeke (Jon Zdechlik), Scott Reid, Heide Andersen, Mark Truckey, Justin Easter (Summit Nordic team), Willie Traubridge, Lowell McCoy (Mack), Matt Dayton, Brian Lorch, Shelly Grail, Scott Yule, Ellen Hollinshead. No council member is included, but as the BOSAC Council representative, Peter Joyce will report to Council on the progress.

Mr. Yule: It would be good to get some direction from Council as to what they want us to focus on in this effort.

Ms. Andersen: I agree that it would be helpful, but the direction from Tim Gagen is to work through the process.

Ms. Andersen: This document will encompass a broader vision, including non-nordic center based skiing. I would like to see this be a grassroots effort.

Mr. Joyce: I don't recall the Council having a pointed discussion about the future of Nordic.

Ms. Hollinshead: We plan to put everything out on the table, then have it come to fruition when it is financially feasible.

Mr. Truckey: I see this as a visionary 10-20 year document.

Mr. Grosshuesch: Operating costs will be scrutinized. The plan will have to address some revenue questions if the proposal will cost real dollars.

Pro Forma Discussion

Mr. Truckey updated BOSAC on the revisions to the pro forma including the assumptions throughout the document.

After talking through the document details, including the other professional services line item (which encompasses forest health contractor work) BOSAC supported the pro forma document as presented.

Gold Run Nordic Update

Ms. McBride updated BOSAC on the Gold Run Nordic Center. This year, we closed Pegasus and Silver Star in a cost cutting move. Zeke is the new Nordic manager. The restaurant is being operated by Burke and Reilly's Pub and has been excellent. We are looking at putting another RFP out for a vendor to operate the center for the 2010-2011 nordic season. The goal is to have the prospective concessionaire be able to look at the operations this season and bid accurately for the operation.

Ms. Hollinshead: How much distance was closed for budget reasons? (approximately 5k) How are the visitor numbers? (Good for now, especially given this year's snow issues and late start.)

Mr. Cospolich: Did you receive any proposals last time the RFP came out? (No proposals, but two interested groups.)

Mr. Bergeron: How many people are really paying for the grooming from the Peabody to Preston? (Site changes and backcountry access present issues. Staff is working on solutions to address this issue.)

Mr. Cospolich: Maybe we should close that trailhead.

Mr. Yule: I suggest we stop running the cat beyond Hoodoo Voodoo and just run a snowmobile to allow for classic skiing only above Hoodoo. Perhaps Pegasus could be groomed then with the time and money saved by grooming less on the Preston Loop.

BOSAC agreed to direct staff to consider the concept of grooming the Preston Loop for classic skiing only, to free up resources and allow Pegasus to be groomed again.

Mr. Bergeron: Missing Pegasus means we reduced the upper intermediate skiing. Gold Run is now lacking an upper intermediate trail.

Mr. Yule: There were some trail realignments for golf course considerations, right? (Yes.) I think we should consider more classic-only trails throughout the system.

Mr. Cospolich: How are pass sales? (Lower, but revenues are still consistent. Day pass sales are up.)

Commissioner Issues

Ms. Hollinshead: We need dog poop facilities at our trailheads, including B&B Trailhead, Lincoln Townsite and Reiling Dredge. Regarding forest health, will more be cut near the Middle Flume? (Not planned at this time)

Mr. Yule: I received a compliment from a user who is disabled and enjoys the Town trails, including Minnie Mine, Turk's B&B and Cucumber Trails.

Mr. Kuhn: Separate uses for winter users. I agree with poop issues at the trailheads. Perhaps just a sign is a good place to start to reduce costs of such a program.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled BOSAC meeting is on February 15, 2010 at 5:30 pm in the Administrative Conference Room in the Breckenridge Town Hall (150 Ski Hill Road).

Mr. Yule motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Cospolich seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Dennis Kuhn, Chair

From: Stein, Dale
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2010 12:47 PM
To: Daugherty, Tom; Andersen, Heide
Cc: Meyer, Mark
Subject: RE: W-O annual expenses

Heide,

I have reviewed the 2009 expenses and have provided below a general summary of how the expenditures were distributed. These numbers are approximate but they show in general terms how funds are being spent at the plant.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Dale

Chemical Reagents (Soda Ash)	\$40000 per year	\$3333 per month
Chemical Reagents (Sodium Hydrosulfide)	\$20000	\$1667
Chemical (Other)	\$3000	\$250
Testing of effluent (outside agency)	\$15000	\$1250
Shipping (to testing agency)	\$2400	\$200
Gas (heating)	\$9900	\$825
Electric (plant power)	\$15000	\$1250
Sewer (office only)	\$1500	\$125
Phone / internet	\$1800	\$150
Plant Equipment Maintenance	\$19800	\$1650
Supplies and operations materials	\$5000	\$417
BioteQ (consultant off-site monitoring)	\$30000	\$2500
Approximate Totals	\$163,400 per year	\$13,617 per month

From: Daugherty, Tom
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2010 9:02 AM
To: Andersen, Heide; Stein, Dale
Subject: RE: W-O annual expenses

Here is 2009. This will be representative of the annual costs. The water department is dedicating more than one operator to that facility. We told the County that we would re-evaluate the need to have an operator for that facility after we ran the plant for a while. I think that we could hire another operator based on the time that the plant requires. That could increase the cost to both the County as well as the Open Space Fund.

Tom Daugherty
Assistant Public Works Director/Town Engineer
P.O. Box 168
150 Ski Hill Road
Breckenridge CO 80424
970-453-3175
tomd@townofbreckenridge.com

From: Andersen, Heide
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 4:56 PM
To: Stein, Dale; Daugherty, Tom
Subject: W-O annual expenses

Could I please ask one of you (most likely Dale?) to give me a summary of the annual costs of the W-O WTP? This is something that BOSAC requested and that I wanted to put in their packet for the upcoming meeting.

Let me know if you have any questions ...

Thanks in advance,
Heide



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

White River
National
Forest

Dillon Ranger District
P.O. Box 620
680 Blue River Parkway
Silverthorne, CO 80498
(970) 468-5400
FAX (970) 468-7735

File: 2810

Date: January 20, 2010

Dear Mining Claimant:

Based on a recent review of the Bureau of Land Management records of active mining claims in Township 6 South, range 77 West, 6th P.M., Summit County, you are the owner of a claim(s) located in the "Golden Horseshoe" area east of Breckenridge. The claim is in an area of considerable travel management issues, recreation use and patch work ownership of federal and non-federal lands, all of which may affect proposed mining activities. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the process for administering mining claims on National Forest lands in the Golden Horseshoe area.

Before a claimant can engage in any surface disturbance, mechanized exploration, mining, residency or site occupation, or travel across non-Forest Service system roads and trails, the party with the claim must file a plan of operations or notice of intent with the local land managing agency. Exploration and mining activities on federal lands in Summit County are administered by the Dillon Ranger District, White River National Forest of the Secretary of Agriculture. A letter explaining your proposed mining activities, along with a map showing proposed access to the claims and location of planned mining activities is required as a notice of intent to initiate the review process.

The Forest Service then reviews your intended activities to determine if there is a potential to cause surface disturbances and if the activities are in compliance with overall forest management of the area, as well as an assessment of potential impacts to adjacent lands in which the claims are located. If there is a chance that there may be significant ground disturbance, use of non-system forest roads, occupancy of historic structures, or potential trespass concerns, then you will be required to submit a more detailed "Plan of Operations". Any surface disturbing activities require a bond to ensure that reclamation will occur on the site once the mineral development is completed. The amount of the bond is calculated at the time the Plan of Operation is reviewed, and activities at the mine site cannot begin until the bond is approved.

You may not construct permanent structures, mobile structures, store equipment or vehicles, or use unauthorized roads or trails without the prior approval of the District Ranger. Intermittent or casual mineral exploration and development do not normally justify the use of such structures or travel off designated routes or any rights to camping or occupancy of National Forest lands beyond the time period allowed for the general public.

The Federal Government maintains the right to manage the surface and surface resources on mining claims and sites that do not materially interfere with an ongoing mining activity located



under the General Mining Law. In the case of the Golden Horseshoe area this includes management of an extensive network of abandoned mines, historic features, authorized and unauthorized roads and trails, heavy year-round recreation use and a complicated landownership pattern, with many boundary lines unmarked.

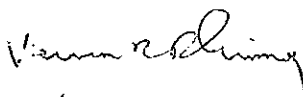
Having a mining claim does not give you a right of access on non-federal lands that may need to be crossed to access a claim on the National Forest. Right of access must be legally obtained from private property owners. In addition, the right of access to a mining claim or site across Federal lands does not mean that you have a right to cause unnecessary or undue degradation of the surface resources. You are liable for damages if found responsible for unnecessary loss of or injury to property of the United States.

Any mining on federal lands is also subject to local and state rules and regulations dealing with mining. The Colorado Division of Reclamation and Mine Safety (DRMS) administers mining activities in Summit County. You should be familiar with the state's requirements before submitting a notice of intent or plan of operations with the Forest Service. Information that explains the state's requirements for mining claims is found on their website at <http://mining.state.co.us/>. Summit County and the Town of Breckenridge own over 2,500 acres of land in the Golden Horseshoe area that are subject to local government jurisdiction. Information on the use of these open space lands is found at www.co.summit.co.us or contacting Brian Lorch at 970-668-4067, email brianl@co.summit.co.us.

The Forest Service, Summit County Government and the Town of Breckenridge, in close communication with other land owners, work cooperatively in managing the Golden Horseshoe area to protect natural, cultural, scenic and recreation resources while providing for appropriate multiple use opportunities, including mining. As an owner of an active mining claim you have a right to explore and potentially extract minerals on federal lands. You also are responsible to become aware of the issues and concerns specific to the area of your mining claim. I hope the information above will make you aware of those concerns and help in developing your plans for mining in Summit County.

If you have any comments or concerns on the matters discussed above, please contact Paul Semmer, Dillon Ranger District Minerals Administrator at 970-262-3448, email psemmer@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,


for
JAN CUTTS
District Ranger

cc: Brian Lorch, Summit County Open Space and Trails, P.O. Box 5660, Frisco, CO 80443,
Heide Anderson, Breckenridge Open Space and Trails, P.O. Box 68, Breckenridge, CO 80424,
Kurt Barton, BLM Mining Claim Adjudicator, 2850 Youngfield, Lakewood, CO 80215