

### **Roll Call**

Jeff Cospolich called the October 21, 2013 BOSAC meeting to order at 5:37 pm. Other BOSAC members present included Jeff Carlson, Jeffery Bergeron, Ben Brewer, Craig Campbell, Chris Tennal and Devon O'Neil. Staff members present were Scott Reid, and Chris Kulick. Brian Lorch of Summit County Open Space was present as was a member of the public Erin Gigliello.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes were approved with a clarification by Mr. O'Neil stating the minutes were accurate in portraying his initial support and comments for raising event fees, but he later reversed his support and instead favored a voluntary check box for donations to a trail maintenance fund.

### **Approval of Agenda**

An executive session was added to the agenda.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **Staff Summary**

#### **Cucumber Gulch Preserve – Channel Restoration and Forest Health Projects**

The channel restoration project in Cucumber Gulch Preserve is almost complete. The excavation work is finished, but additional hand work and revegetation efforts will be undertaken this fall and next year. The project will likely also be under budget. The contract for the forest health work on the MBJ and Wedge parcels has been assigned to a contractor. Staff will update BOSAC on any progress on the forest health project.

#### **Trail Project Updates**

As the 2013 field season comes to a close, Town staff has been working to complete the Barney Flow Trail, the Upper Flume realignment, and drainage work throughout the trail system. We are also working to plan the 2014 trail projects, grant applications and VOC project goals.

Mr. Bergeron – When will the new gate be installed east of the Lincoln Townsite? (Mr. Reid – It is installed already.)

Mr. Cospolich – Have we previously developed any trails on Continental Divide Land Trust property? (Mr. Reid – We have not, but the County has worked with them on other trail projects.)

### **Open Space and Trails**

#### **Swan River Restoration Discussion**

Brian Lorch of Summit County Open Space presented information on the Swan River Restoration. For many years, restoration of the Swan River corridor has been an open space program goal. The Swan River was dredged in the early 1900's, leaving a valley bottom full of dredge rock piles, largely devoid of vegetation and functional riparian corridor habitat. In addition, the Swan River runs subsurface through many of the dredge piles much of the year, rather than functioning as a river on the surface. This subsurface river condition (through a "box of marbles") compromises the wildlife and recreational values for which the property was acquired.

As a result, staffs for the Blue River Watershed group, the U.S. Forest Service and the Town and County have been working cooperatively with several private landowners to improve the condition of the river with the long-term goals of providing improved fisheries, wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities for the river, particularly for the reach above the confluence with Muggins Gulch. Longer-term BOSAC members should recall a presentation by Corey Lewellen from the USFS, which pertained to the restoration goals for the three forks of the Swan River. As partners in this restoration effort, the Town open space program contributed funds to develop a river restoration plan for this river reach.

This year, staff was presented with an opportunity to implement portions of the river restoration plan through a partnership with the developers of the Muggins Gulch property. In exchange for the existing dredge gravel, the Muggins Gulch developers have regraded several acres of the valley bottom to match the topography enumerated in the river restoration plan. In addition, topsoil and native seed were imported and used to cover the area to promote revegetation. The grading work, topsoil and seed were donated by the Muggins Gulch developers in exchange for the dredge gravels, which will be used for the roads and infrastructure related to the development.

Mr. O'Neil – Has there been any pushback from Sam McCleneghan or Brian Holt about the project? (Mr. Lorch – No, they have both been very supportive because the project adds significant value to their property.)

Mr. Bergeron – Will we connect Muggins Gulch to the Colorado Trail? (Mr. Lorch – Yes but it is separate from this project.)

Mr. Campbell – What is the water quality like in the Swan River? Is it still impacted from mining? (Mr. Lorch – The water quality is good, in part because we performed a voluntary cleanup at the Royal Tiger/IXL mine site.)

Mr. Cospolich – How does the fish barrier work? (Mr. Lorch – The will be a 6-8' waterfall installed.)

Mr. Tennial – Are there any plans for a connector trail from the Galena Ditch Trail on the uplands. (Mr. Lorch – There will be trails but mainly for river access, we have other plans for connecting and extending the Galena Ditch Trail.)

Mr. O'Neil – Any plans for restroom facilities? (Mr. Lorch - We are pretty close to considering those types of facilities due to the heavy use in the area.)

Mr. O'Neil – How long until full build out of the project? (Mr. Lorch -Most likely 5-15 years.)

Mr. Brewer – Is there a cutthroat fishery in French Creek (Mr. Reid – Yes.) Can we do the same type of restoration in French Gulch? (Mr. Reid – Two potential barriers to completing a similar type of restoration include the Heritage Alliance's interest in preserving some of the dredge piles as a National Historic Landscape and the amount of truck traffic the restoration would generate through the heavily populated Wellington, Vista Point and French Creek areas.) I have a big issue with keeping that much dredge rock intact for historical interpretation only. (Mr. Reid – There are obviously some competing interests in French Gulch.) (Mr. Lorch – The BOCC will like to discuss this issue with Town Council at the next joint meeting.) I support the long-term restoration of the dredge piles in French Creek. In my opinion, the environmental restoration is significantly more important than the historic preservation in this case.

Mr. Bergeron – Will the Reiling Dredge be preserved? (Mr. Grosshuesch – Most likely it will be stabilization and not a full restoration.)

Mr. Brewer – This project is amazing, taking a bunch of dredge rock and making fish habitat. Well done, staff.

BOSAC unanimously supported the Swan River Restoration project.

### **Friends of Dillon Ranger District Donation Discussion**

In 2012, the Town's Grant Committee chose to provide grant assistance to the Friends of Dillon Ranger District (FDRD) to assist in funding the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps to work on the [McCullough Gulch Trail](#). The \$10,000 contribution was drawn from the open space fund. This year, the Town's Grants Committee seeks BOSAC's direction regarding a similar FDRD proposal for McCullough Gulch, Peaks, Mountain Pride and other trails.

Mr. Brewer, Mr. Carlson, Mr. O'Neil & Mr. Bergeron – Were in support of the grant but did not support the use of the open space fund if other Town funding avenues were available.

Mr. Tennal – I am ok funding the grant with open space funds if other funded grants come from similar line items. In the future we should have a little bit more lead time to make these decisions.

Mr. Campbell – Are the FDRD projects aligned with BOSAC values. (Mr. Reid –Yes.) This use of open space funds seems to make sense and since the projects clearly are integrated with our own trail network and aligns with our open space values.

Mr. Grosshuesch – The Town generally tries to fund grant requests from similar budget line items.

### **Pro forma**

Staff presented a revised open space pro forma, reflecting recent acquisitions and changes to sales tax revenue projections. These changes have allowed for some positive adjustments to the acquisitions line item in future years.

Mr. Cospolich – I would like to see where we are in terms of acquisitions year-to-date in every packet.

### **Executive Session**

Mr. Carlson – Motioned to move into executive session at 7:12 pm to discuss property acquisition negotiations.

Mr. Bergeron – seconded the motion.

Mr. Bergeron – Made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:45 pm. Mr. Carlson seconded the motion.

### **Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Monday, November 18, 2013, in the Administrative Conference Room at the Breckenridge Town Hall (150 Ski Hill Road).

Mr. Bergeron made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Carlson.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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Jeff Cospolich, Chair