



LARIMER COUNTY OPEN LANDS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, March 28, 2013

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Loveland Council Chambers, 500 E. Third St., Loveland

The mission of the Larimer County Open Lands Program is to preserve and protect significant open space, natural areas, wildlife habitat, and develop parks and trails for present and future generations. These open lands provide opportunities for leisure, human renewal and protection of our natural and cultural resources.

Present:

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|----------------------|
| Ladonna Lee | At-large | Paul Alaback | Town of Berthoud |
| Peter Kast | At-large | Nancy Wallace | Planning Commission |
| Mary Banken | At-large | Suzan Fritchel | At-large |
| Carl Sorrentino | At-large | Gerry Horak | City of Fort Collins |

Staff Present:

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Kerri Rollins | Open Lands Program Manager | Meegan Flenniken | Resource Program Manager |
| Gary Buffington | Director | Charlie Johnson | Land Agent |
| Zac Wiebe | Fund Development Specialist | Sue Burke | Executive Assistant |
| Steve Johnson | County Commissioner | Lew Gaiter III | County Commissioner |
| Tom Donnelly | County Commissioner | | |

Absent:

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------|----------|
| Hugh McKean | City of Loveland | Trudy Haines | At-large |
| John Phipps | Town of Estes Park | Steve Vessey | At-large |

Peter called the meeting to order at 5:12 pm.

REGULAR MEETING

- Approval of the meeting minutes for February 28, 2013

Carl commented motioned to approve the minutes with changes regarding nesting site language, Suzan seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

- Review Agenda and enclosures

PUBLIC COMMENT: Items not on the agenda.

INFORMATION:

- Our Lands - Our Future (OLOF) second public meeting was held in Loveland on 3/6 at the Fountains of Loveland. It was very successful with about 80 participants filling out surveys. Presentations continue to be scheduled. Make sure you take the survey and do the mapping exercise at www.larimer.org/ourlands_ourfuture Thanks to Fountains of Loveland for donating the use of their building and to Grimm Brothers Brewhouse for donating a drink ticket for every survey filled out!
- River Bluffs planting project using 20 volunteers is scheduled for 3/30. Three large trees and some shrubs will be planted around the trailhead, with lots of smaller vegetation planted along the riverbank. The project is on the riparian portion of Fossil creek from 9-5. Carl will give a short lunchtime interpretive talk about the eagles, archaeology and recent site happenings. Per last months offer from Carl, it has been determined that the Fossil Creek bald eagle pair is a new pair and different than the pair nesting on the Three Bell property. Thanks Carl! Carl commented that he observed the pair at Three Bell just once. He's not sure the



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Fossil Creek Reservoir pair will breed. Kerri mentioned that Travis commented that it is typical for an unsuccessful first year nest.

- Zac has filled the Department Specialist position. Sandy Werkmeister will start attending these meetings next month. Zac introduced Sandy, who was at the meeting as a visitor. Over 230 applications were received for our Volunteer Coordinator position. Rob is sorting through them.
- A trail restoration project at Rotary Park is planned with CSU student volunteers on 4/20 - CSUnity Day
- Larimer County will have a booth at the Earth Day Sustainable Living Fair, also on 4/20
- Staff is working on producing a high definition (HD) video of lands and projects where lottery dollars have been invested, in partnership with the Colorado Lottery and Light Hawk. Filming is expected to begin end of April. Final product will be pushed out via the lottery website and locally.
- Pinewood Reservoir grant applications to Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) requesting \$306,926 and to CPW's Boat Colorado! requesting \$43,000 are in. Total project cost is \$868,156. Partners include BOR, DNR Parks, and \$100,000 from DNR Open Lands.
- Big Thompson elementary groundbreaking takes place on 3/29. GOCO is sending staff which is unusual for this type of event. The project contributes to the goals of Plug In To Nature (PIN).
- PIN project is up for a Larimer County innovation award. Presentations will be on Monday, it is one of four for consideration. If it wins, it will add to three awards from the American Planning Association, Architecture Association, and the Colorado Lottery's Starburst award.
- Report from the Open Lands Operations Manager - See enclosure. Carl asked about seasonal closing for raptors at River Bluffs (RBOS) and Eagle's Nest (ENOS) Open Spaces. Meegan answered that it's river access that is closed at RBOS and at ENOS the trail is closed at the bridge over the north fork of the Poudre.
- Meegan announced that the Visual Artist of the Year is Linda Beech, a fiber artist from Estes Valley and does large landscapes. She'll bring a slideshow of her work to the next meeting. Peter asked if artists tend to reapply year after year. Meegan answered that there are usually a couple. This year's artist, for example, applied last year.
- To sign up for Parks Advisory Board minutes go to <http://larimer.org/subscriptions.cfm> put in your email and click 'subscribe', then check "Parks Advisory Board" box
- Natural Resource Public Events for April. See website <http://www.larimer.org/naturalresources/news.cfm>

PRESENTATIONS:

- 5:45pm – Small Grants for Community Partnering – Larimer County Commissioners

FINANCIAL REPORT:

- Update: Natural Resources Capital Development and Acquisition Summary 2012 – 2014 (**no changes**)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Items not on the agenda In May, directors of state parks will have a BBQ at Horsetooth Reservoir. The Field Manager reservation system pilot program was successful. All visitor passes will now be accessible to staff online, saving a lot of money and staff time. Mary asked if there has been consideration of a free day at Estes Park. Gary: Staff will look at the calendar and consider the suggestion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- **No Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12.

Next regular meeting: Thursday, April 25, 2013; Loveland Council Chambers, 500 E. Third St., Loveland