

MINUTES
OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS BOARD
REGULAR SESSION
June 1, 2021
Zoom Meeting

OSTB Present:

Graeme Means Dist. 1	Howie Mallory Dist. 2	Amy Barrow Dist. 3	Michael Kinsley Dist. 4, Chair	Wayne Ives Dist. 5
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Staff Present: Gary Tennenbaum, Kim Arensdorf, Carly Klein, Jessie Young, Paul Holsinger, Janet Urquhart, Liza Mitchell, Dale Will, Richard Neiley, Jon Peacock

BOCC Present: Greg Poschman

Michael Kinsley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Graeme Means motioned for the OSTB to approve the 05/06/2021 regular and executive session minutes. Howie Mallory seconded. Motion passed (5-0).

Open Space and Trails Board Retreat

Gary Tennenbaum stated that OST staff are starting to reach out to other entities regarding recreation management throughout public lands.

Michael Kinsley asked what other entities are being included in the discussion. Tennenbaum stated that staff will reach out to field researchers in other locations in order to help identify tools to assist with land management issues. Federal land managers, the City of Aspen, the Town of Snowmass, Aspen Ski Co., and the Sherriff's office will all be partners included in the discussion, he said. The Sherriff's office now has a deputy assigned to work with OST and the Forest Service to deal with some trailhead issues, Tennenbaum said.

Graeme Means commented on the importance of identifying the carrying capacity for the impacted properties. Kinsley recommended listing carrying capacity as a subtopic for the retreat discussion, as well as defining the issues and brainstorming about potential solutions.

Howie Mallory proposed that staff collect academic research related to the topic from entities such as the Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management, in order to prepare for the discussion.

Wayne Ives commented that the Forest Service has struggled with carrying capacity for recreation management. He stated that permits and paid parking at trailheads could be helpful tools to limit use.

Amy Barrow noted that collaboration with partners is very important to identify tools to assist with recreation management. She suggested prioritizing the different locations and trailheads for the discussion.

Mallory suggested contacting members of the Vail Pass Task Force, in order to discuss their ongoing efforts to mitigate motorized and non-motorized recreation on Vail Pass.

Means noted the potential to develop more recreation opportunities on already developed areas with established transit, such as more hiking trails on Buttermilk and Aspen Mountain. This would lighten the load on backcountry areas, he said.

Tennenbaum stated that the OSTB Retreat can kick start the discussion with partners on opportunities to improve recreation management.

BOARD AND STAFF COMMENTS

Means recommended signing up for the OST sponsored Roaring Fork Conservancy tours. He noted that there is an opening for the Planning and Zoning Board, and welcomed any recommendations by the Board and staff.

Ives asked how the Board will be involved in the agriculture lease process update. Tennenbaum stated that both the OSTB and the BOCC will need to approve and adopt the updated process. He stated that staff is shooting for the update early this fall. Gwen Garcelon will be providing updates to the Board throughout the process, Tennenbaum said.

Kinsley asked about Healthy Rivers and Streams (HRS) involvement for Phillips River Access. Tennenbaum stated that OST is currently only looking at recreation management at Phillips within the Ranger program. He explained that OST can collaborate with HRS in the future as the project develops. Dale Will explained that the Phillips River Access Adoption started out with the County Managers office requesting OST to help manage the public use of the recreational resource. A legal issue for the property was brought up at the BOCC regular meeting that if the property was purchased through the housing fund there is an issue designating it to any other department. Will stated that the public use of that riverfront is ongoing, therefore it is a question of how you manage the public use that is already taking place. An easy resolution would be to assign the supervision of the public use to the program that has the capacity to manage, and the long term question would be who takes the lead on habitat restoration over time, Will said. Kinsley suggested that the HRSB and OSTB have a meeting on this topic. Tennenbaum stated that as the project develops a joint meeting will be beneficial.

Jon Peacock, Richard Neiley and Greg Poschman entered at 9:40 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Wayne Ives motioned for the OSTB to enter into executive session with the BOCC in accordance with CRS 24-6-402(4) (a)(b) and (e) for the purpose of discussing acquisitions,

attorney consultation and negotiations at 9:50 a.m. Howie Mallory seconded. Motion passed (5-0).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

JOINT OSTB – BOCC WORK SESSION **Commissioners Meeting Room; 530 E. Main St., Aspen**

OSTB Trustees Present: Michael Kinsley (Chair), Amy Barrow, Graeme Means, Wayne Ives

BOCC Present: Kelly McNicholas Kury (Chair), Steve Child, Greg Poschman, Patti Clapper, Francie Jacober

Staff Present: Gary Tennenbaum, Dale Will, Kim Arensdorf, Paul Holsinger, Liza Mitchell, John Ely, Suzanne Wolff, Jon Peacock, Phillis Mattice

Others Present: Bill Fales

Media Present: Grassroots TV

Kelly McNicholas Kury called the joint work session to order at 12:10 p.m.

The entire joint work session meeting video is available from this link by selecting the meeting date: <https://pitkincounty.ompnetwork.org/embed/sessions/181821/bocc-work-session-special-meeting-06-01-2021-cgtv>

Phillips River Access Adoption

Phylis Mattice explained that OST manages the areas above and below the Phillips property, therefore it is a great opportunity for OST to adopt the river access corridor in the interim. Tennenbaum noted that OST can assist with seamless management of river users and commercial permits. In the future, once the housing fund project on the property is decided, OST can have discussions with HRS and housing with regards to riparian management, agriculture and restoration, Tennenbaum said.

John Ely noted that the Phillips Mobile Home Park was purchased with the housing fund, therefore there are different restrictions on how the housing fund and OST fund can be utilized. Dale Will stated that there is a clause in the Home Rule Charter stating that designations or adoptions do authorize the use of OST funds for supervision of trail easements that are owned by other entities and managed with other purposes.

Wayne Ives asked what the adoption term would be for OST to manage this portion of the property. Will stated that there is no specified term, however the designation could be rescinded if the housing fund wanted full management and funding of the property.

Ely explained that a resolution would be needed for OST to manage this river access portion of the property.

Kinsley recommended that the BOCC & OST include HRS in future discussions regarding the property.

The BOCC recommended that OST program adopt the river access portion of the Phillips Mobile Home property for interim management.

Cold Mountain Ranch Conservation Easement Amendment

Paul Holsinger explained that the Cold Mountain Ranch CE was purchased by OST in 2009. There are two existing homesites on the property, and the Conservation Easement allows the construction of two additional houses (each currently capped at 5750 ft. sq.). Property owners Bill and Marj Fales had reserved a homesite for each of their daughters (Molly and Katie) who each now want to build, he said. The family is proposing to amend the Conservation Easement and Open Space Master Plan (OSMP) to modify the homesite locations. Holsinger explained that the amendment request submitted by the family accurately depicts the currently allowed vs. proposed uses and overall would result in a reduction in building envelopes, envelope size, and residential floor area. This amendment would benefit the conservation values of the property, he said.

Ives commented that this amendment is a great opportunity for conservation.

Francie Jacober thanked the Fales for their generous offer.

Board action below.

BOARD AND STAFF COMMENTS

Tennenbaum commented that OST staff is working with other land management agencies and the Sheriff's office on an education campaign to teach people how to recreate responsibly. With the significant increase in recreation it will help educate the public on rules and regulations for public lands, he said.

BOARD ACTION

Cold Mountain Ranch Conservation Easement Amendment

Wayne Ives motioned for the motion to recommend approval of the Cold Mountain Ranch Conservation Easement Amendment and OSMP amendment. Michael Kinsley seconded. Motion passed (4-0).

ADJOURN

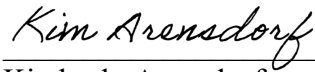
The OSTB and Joint OSTB-BOCC meetings of June 1, 2021 adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Approved:

Attest:



Michael Kinsley, Chair
Pitkin County Open Space & Trails Board



Kimberly Arensdorf
Pitkin County Open Space & Trails
Administrative Specialist