



**TOPS Working Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 1, 2023**

Members Present: Bob Falcone, Wendy Thomas, Blaze Panariso, Bob Shafer, Paula Krantz, Ingrid Richter, Wendy Howe, Jeff Davis

Members Absent: Hank Scarangella

Alternates Present: Chelsea Gondeck, Ellen Senf

Parks Board Liaisons Present: Larry Bogue, Greg Thornton, Abby Simpson

Staff Present: Britt Haley, Kim King, Eric Becker, Anna White, David Deitemeyer

.....
TOPS Working Committee Chair Bob Falcone brought the meeting to order at 7:32 A.M.

Agenda Preview

Committee Chair Bob Falcone announced the agenda for the meeting.

Announcements

Britt Haley, Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Director, announced that there would be an optional site visit to the Pikeview Quarry on the 15th of the month. She said staff would provide more details closer to the visit date.

Approval of Minutes – February 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the February 1, 2023 TOPS Working Committee meeting.

1st –Paula Krantz, 2nd – Blaze Panariso, Approved, Unanimously.

Citizen Discussion

Cory Sutela, Executive Director for Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates, informed the Committee that his organization is going to be partnering with a few organizations to have a “rock the vote” event. This event will be at Concrete Coyote on March 18th, from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. There will be music, food, and a chance for Mayoral and City Council candidates to engage in public discussion. Mr. Sutela said he hoped to see everyone there.

Susan Davies, Executive Director for the Trails and Open Space Coalition (TOSC), had a few updates and questions. First, she encouraged Committee members and citizens in attendance to write letters to the editor of the Gazette in support of the TOPS extension. Next, Ms. Davies informed the Committee that she had yard signs in support of TOPS, and would be happy to give one to whoever was interested. Ms. Davies then stated she would like to see an update on the e-bike policy as well as the Palmer Trail. Britt Haley responded that an e-bike update could be coming in the next few months, and that an update on the Palmer Trail will be available once the Forest Service completes their assessment of the rock slide. Finally, Ms. Davies encouraged everyone to listen to Committee Chair Bob Falcone’s podcasts.

Presentations

Rocky Mountain Field Institute Annual Update (Presented by Lindsay Williams, Program Manager for the Rocky Mountain Field Institute)

Lindsay Williams, Program Manager for the Rocky Mountain Field Institute (RMFI), presented the Committee with the RMFI Annual Update. This presentation included an overview of RMFI; areas they serve; how RMFI accomplishes work; the TOPS Stewardship Contract; locations of 2022 work; 2022 objectives; volunteerism in 2022; volunteers; the Stewardship Crew; 2022 work stats; Austin Bluffs Open Space; Blodgett Open Space; Red Rock Canyon Open Space; Stratton Open Space; and finally, programming in 2023.

[Link to Agenda Packet Here](#)

Fishers Canyon Update (Presented by David Deitemeyer, Senior Landscape Architect)

David Deitemeyer, Senior Landscape Architect, presented the Committee with the Fishers Canyon update. This presentation included the property map; the Fishers Canyon Master Plan; the future master plan; the wildfire mitigation project; photos of the forestry machinery and equipment being used for mitigation; photos of the fire mitigation project; photos of two units of the project, before and after mitigation work; and finally, the mitigation timeline.

[Link to Agenda Packet Here](#)

Citizen Discussion

Britt Haley, Director, informed the Committee that City Council had been very supportive and voted in favor of the two acquisitions in Corral Bluffs.

Committee member Paula Krantz informed the rest of the Committee that TOSC had a member hike at the future Coleman Park site, and discussed the future master planning of the property.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion to adjourn the TOPS Working Committee meeting at 8:33 a.m.

1st – Blaze Panariso, 2nd – Jeff Davis, Approved, Unanimously.