

# Upper Snowmass Creek Caucus

Agenda for August 21, 2017

Meeting at 7:00PM at the Aspen Camp for the Deaf

## Called to Order at 7:04

Present: Jan, Brian, Michael, Buzz, Amy arrived after start

## Approval of Minutes

Approval of the last meeting: Jan moved to approve Michael second, unanimous approval

## Treasurer's Report

Michael Vernon read through the financial report. \$3,985 balance. We are well within the budget and have a supportive community. Going forward, the website will have the Financial Report posted quarterly. Possible move to Fire Station may necessitate the purchase of a speaker phone for communication.

## Wheeler Acknowledgement

The Board wishes to thank the Wheelers for graciously hosting an absolutely wonderful event in which almost 80 people attended. Jan will contact them in regards to filing the paperwork for a charitable donation.

## Water Committee Report

- Art Martin describes the most recent meetings

I continue to educate myself, and build a library of information for the Caucus. Met with Kit Hamby again and am appreciative of the District for sharing information and reports. They continue with exploring conservation measures and efficiency plans. They will focus on public outreach and education. There was acknowledgement per context of past friction with our area, and look forward to smoothing that over.

## Fire Mitigation Study – Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

Jan Martin describes the most recent meeting of the Caucus, Basalt and Rural Fire Protection District (BRFPD), BLM, US Forest Service, Pitkin County, and Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS)

Copies of the Draft of the USCC CWPP were passed around.

A hand out brochure was distributed at the Caucus picnic. The interagency group continues to collect data, and at this point has done risk assessments for about 60 homes. Inventories are being taken of available water sources, and testing hydrants to determine which are dry (must be sucked to activate), and which are pressurized. Jim of the US Forest Service emphasized modeling of a fire's behavior which will support appropriate responses. The conclusion so far, is that the 2 areas at most risk are the Shield O Terrace (SOT) and the Shield O Mesa (SOM) areas. Prioritizing alternative egress(es) for evacuation is being studied. The water ditch and ATV path on the Harvey property were mentioned. Monastery Cutoff is being explored. Dave Hale mentioned that SOM had approached them about using the road. They were not receptive, stating that they didn't want to set precedence and its use would interrupt their solitude. That canyon is also difficult and possibly dangerous to navigate. Maybe up through Ziegler?

It was mentioned again that Mike Thomas of Wildcat has teamed up with Pitkin Alert to allow emergency egress through their property.

As far as improvement of egress routes and fuel mitigation, supportive funds could be found through federal grants available to Firewise Communities. The CWPP will require monitoring, evaluation and annual reporting and an updating.

BRFPD is planning a Food Bash around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July next year to educate our area.

## Master Plan Final Revisions

A long discussion was held regarding TDR's and expectations. It was decided that the language of the Master Plan, "The Caucus strongly supports the Pitkin County Land Use Code, including use of Transferrable Development Rights. New development should be sited to lessen visual impacts and include finishes that are compatible with the local neighborhood" would be satisfactory.

## Other Business

Jan brought up the necessity of people volunteering for ad hoc committees. These committees would have a Director, as described in the Bylaws who would coordinate with others, then report to the Board.

We need someone to handle weeds, and another to handle the annual road cleanup.

**Adjourned at 8:25**