

8/19/19

## Upper Snowmass Creek Caucus meeting notes

President Brian called the meeting to order and passed his proxy vote to Jan Martin as he had to leave early.

Attendees were:

Jan Martin – Board member

Bobbie Brazzell – Board member

Vicki Velsus – who brought Valerie Jackson

Dave Hale – Treasurer

Nancy White – first attendance

Art Martin – Water Committee chair

Dave gave the Treasurer report – current balance is \$2,618  
August 2018-August 2019 Expenditures were discussed and  
The future budget including a lot of the same items was adopted  
and passed by the Board.

The current goal for fund raising is \$16,000 and the Fundraising letter will go out tomorrow, the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Jan said the major focus of the Caucus is currently Fire Mitigation.

The Caucus area has become a “fire use community” which makes us eligible for Grants.

The Colorado State Department of Forestry was commissioned during the previous fiscal year for a one-time expense to model hypothetical fires in the Caucus area and identify the most pertinent areas requiring a plan of protection. The areas most at risk were Shield O Mesa and Shield O Terrace.

Fuel mitigation was one of the past year’s expenses. Efforts were made to trim back flammable materials 3 feet on both sides of Snowmass Creek Road from Mile Market 4000 to the pavement.

The traffic control for the fuel mitigation was supposed to have been paid by the County (Roads and Bridges department) but because of the Avalanches the County could not help so we had to pay for it ourselves. The County did pick up metal that had been left on the road in order to provide room for the mowers and chain saws, etc.

Mention was made about the fire danger status sign and the fact that someone kept changing it. The \_\_\_\_\_ site is consulted for the current fire danger every day and the sign on the road is changed to reflect that so residents are aware.

Art Martin, Water Committee chair, suggested that the Caucus have a series of water information seminars with representatives from the Water District and the Director of Relations for Colorado Water among others. A motion was made and passed to agree with that proposal if enough Caucus residents were interested and would attend. Art said our Creek water preservation and maintenance was affected by the water policies of both the local region and the state and we should be aware of them.

Additional discussion involved Watson Divide and the chances of getting it paved and guard rails installed and although that is on our Master Plan there are various local entities resisting it based on their feeling that it would impact the rural quality of the area. The consensus at the meeting was that it would not detract from the rural ambiance and safety concerns made those improvements necessary.

It was decided that we needed to develop more Board members and make moves to develop more community awareness of the Caucus and its functions. Then the Board adjourned.