

**Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District
Citizens Advisory Group**

**Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2018**

The meeting was held at:
City of Fountain, City Hall
116 S. Main Street, 2nd Floor
Fountain, CO

1. Call to Order, Establish Quorum and Introductions

The March 9, 2018 meeting of the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District (FCWD) Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) was called to order by Ms. Irene Kornelly, Chairperson, at 9:33 a.m. A quorum was noted, with the following CAG members in attendance:

Irene Kornelly – Chair and CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board
Mary Barber – Alternate Representative to the FCWD Governing Board and Web Manager
Jack Wallick – CAG Secretary
Josh Watkins, TAC Representative to the CAG
Darcie Hannigan
Allison Plute
Ross Vincent
David Wooley

CAG Members Not Present:

Sherie Caffey
Ian Hartley – Vice Chair
Christine Lowenberg
Dana Nordstrom
Tom Ready

Also in Attendance:

Larry Small, FCWD Executive Director
Scott Campbell, Innovative Conservation Solutions

2. Approve Agenda of March 9, 2018 Meeting.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the March 9, 2018 Agenda was approved.

3. Approve Minutes of February 9, 2018 Meeting.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the February 9, 2018 minutes were approved.

4. Presentations

a. Fountain Creek Opportunities, Scott Campbell, Innovative Conservation Solutions. Scott talked about the in-progress study ICS is conducting for The Nature Conservancy on opportunities for changes in the Fountain Creek Watershed's health and management. Handouts backed up the presentation with charts and process narrative.

- The study began with a survey of regional stakeholders about issues and concerns in the watershed and activities in need of new investment. Analysis of the survey results filled numerous pages and will not be reproduced for these minutes. CAG members who missed the presentation can email Scott (scott@innovativeconservation.org) for a copy of his handout with detailed results.
 - The item ranked most important to the future of the region was “Directing and funding watershed management activities through a basin-wide governance approach”.
 - The next highest ranked items were: “Developing stream management plans, which provide guidance to protect, maintain, and/or restore stream corridors while addressing community needs (i.e., water quality, habitat, connectivity, and community/recreational amenities).”; “Assisting city and county officials interested in better integrating water management objectives into land use practices. (For example: encouraging development that reduces water use; or planning communities that reduce stormwater impacts.)”; and “Mitigating nonpoint source pollution. (For example, cleaning up nutrient runoff from farms or bacterial contamination from and animal waste in urban drainage corridors.)”
- Analysis was also performed on the geographical breakdown responses; breakdown by sector (private, public, or 3rd), and results broken down by water expertise of respondent. The variation across geographical, sector, and water expertise communities provides insight into future outreach efforts.
- Following survey analysis, INC conducted interviews with subject matter experts and performed a gap analysis of what is needed in the watershed.
- At this point the plan is to explore opportunities in watershed education with an eye to long-term funding for the District. The gap analysis and greater insight into the watershed's needs will allow INC and TNC to determine where their abilities and resources can be best applied, all of which are to be delivered in a report with near term and far term objectives.

b. Capital Improvement Projects from Monetary Mitigation Fund Advisory Committee.

Irene gave a presentation on the Capital Improvements Project plan for 2018.

- Last December the Board approved the three projects the MMFAC proposed for 2018.
 - This was the first CIP the committee had made, so it took a while to establish an agreed-upon evaluation process. This will now be an annual process in which potential projects are reviewed and proposed for implementation, extending up to ten years, or as long as there are funds available.
 - A technical review determined high priority of projects that met the 1041 Permit conditions.
 - The MMFAC membership is made up of two members of Pueblo County staff, two members of Colorado Springs Utilities staff, The FCWD Executive Director (Larry Small), the Chair of the TAC, and the Chair of the CAG, or their alternates if named.

- The evaluation started with the WARSSS projects, of which there were about 230. The objectives of those projects were to reduce flooding, improve water quality, and reduce sedimentation.
 - Beyond that, the committee developed Tier 2 criteria that used both objective and subjective criteria as well as consistency with existing Watershed planning documents and anticipated future documents such as the Needs Assessments, AFCURE information, and other District objectives.
 - Future CIP plans will incorporate those studies as they become available. Flash flooding and forest fires will require flexibility to respond to events as they happen.
 - The committee also recognizes that Colorado Springs Stormwater projects will have a beneficial effect downstream that will likely reprioritize projected projects.
 - The 2019 CIP will be out no later than February and hopefully sooner.
 - The MMFAC will not meet in March – they are giving themselves a month off.

5. Reports.

a. Governing Board Meeting.

Larry reported on the February 23 meeting of the Governing Board.

- The Board heard the presentation on Needs Assessment Study and approved the final report.
- The Water Activity Board approved the contract for Matrix Design Group to perform the engineering design and construction management for the Barr Farm project.
- The Water Activity Board also adopted the 2018 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) from the MMFAC.

b. TAC Meeting.

Irene reported on the TAC meeting.

- The TAC heard Scott Campbell's presentation on the survey and analysis for TNC.
- They also heard the presentation on the CIP.
- Irene commented that at some point this summer she will request Mark Shea of the TAC give the CAG a presentation on AFCURE's activities into determining the non point sources of contamination in the watershed. AFCURE is also examining the issue of PFCs, PFOAs, and related contaminants and whether to look at it as a broader problem.

c. Outreach Group.

Allison Plute reported on Outreach Group activities.

- On Saturday March 17 Jerry Cordova and other community partners are having a costumed Trashmob at Sierra High School to clean up. The theme is Super Heroes, so grab your Superman or Wonderwoman get up and get out there!
- Allison is going to Pueblo on the 19th to meet with Susan of Pueblo City-County Health Department. CAG member Sherie Caffee with CSU Extension, and a Sierra Club/Water Sentinels representative to brief them on our activities. They'll be meeting at the Brues Alehouse so the Brewshed Alliance will also be promoted there and at other Pueblo breweries.
- April 14 will be the 2nd annual SustainaFest at the SustainaCenter at 704 E Boulder St, 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. Bluegrass music with Jerry Cordova and musical associates, and other stuff celebrating sustainability in Colorado Springs. We'll have a District or WOC table and of course we'll need District/CAG people to help.
- April 21st is the Great American Cleanup event. There are 21 sites for which the community is supporting and seeking volunteers, among which are Pikeview Reservoir, the Utilities properties off Las Vegas Street, and the Greenway Fund's site at the Legacy

Loop Trail Head off Fontanero near the City Maintenance Yard. All cleanups start at 9:00 a.m.; stay for half an hour, hour, or whatever. Register at www.gacppp.com. This is the big spring cleanup, and then in the fall we'll have Creek Week.

- The RFP for the District's website upgrade has been finalized, and the group will soon see what responses we get from it. The RFP is structured along the lines of what we can afford as well as what we'd like to afford if we find more money somewhere.
- The Outreach Group and partners will be putting on a tour of District projects on a weekday in July. The Board, CAG, TAC, and various VIPs will be visiting Masciantonio, the Hwy 47 Bridge, and other current and completed District projects. Allison asked for help putting the tour together, so anyone willing to help plan and execute this important event is asked to step up now.
- Along the same line, that of Outreach, Allison has been asked to consider producing a coffee table type book showing the value of Utilities, District, and Stormwater efforts have added to the community and watershed in general.
- With respect to the Brewshed Alliance, Darcie Hannigan stated that there is a lot of potential for spreading watershed and other conservation-related messages. She and her husband Ryan will be taking a more active role in the organization helping the breweries spread our mutual messages.
- Following interviews with four candidates, Allison selected this year's intern, Annie. She has experience with social media campaigns and large event planning, so this experience will be of value when she begins in June to help with Creek Week planning. She will have 400 hours of funding.
- The District brochure is being re-designed and updated. Darcie and Allison have been working on it and passed around drafts, asking for feedback.
- Jonah from Colorado College, who has helped the District and Creek Week with graphic design, will be leaving us. He is graduating in May and has been accepted to a master's program at CU Boulder in Environmental Policy.
- Creek Week is up for a Greenie Award, as is CAG alumnus Jerry Cordova. The event is at Stargazers on the 29th of April.

d. Monetary Mitigation Fund Advisory Committee. Irene had no report from the MMFAC other than the CIP presentation previously delivered.

e. Website and Facebook Page. There was nothing new to report.

6. Current Business

Project Reports. Larry Small reported on current projects.

- The Masciantonio project is nearly done. Spring planting is all that remains, and that is now underway. Larry expects completion in April.
- The Highway 47 Bridge project is proceeding on schedule. Bank stabilization with rip rap is complete on the middle bend and work is progressing upstream. Asbestos contamination from old drywall was found in the west bank and must be cleaned up.
- The design work for Barr Farm is underway, Matrix has the engineering and construction management contract. Construction should begin in October.
- We are still waiting on the contract for the CWBC grant for design of the project between 8th and 13th Street in Pueblo, but that work could begin as early as April.

7. Other Business.

- Mary commented that she had been following the Hitchrack Quarry proposal that refuses to die. She felt that there could be an impact on the Little Fountain Creek, which would affect overall watershed water quality. CAG members and the District overall should be aware of this ongoing issue.
- Jack Wallick delivered a rousing rendition of his Monument Creek song.

9. Public Comment. There were no public comments.

10. Next Meeting. The next scheduled CAG meeting will be Friday April 13 at 9:30 a.m. in the Fountain City Hall, 116 W. Main, second floor meeting room.

10. Adjourn:

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:04 a.m.