

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

**Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2019**

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 September 13, 2019 meeting of the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District (FCWD) Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) was called to order by Ms. Irene Kornelly, Chair, at about 9:39 a.m. A quorum was achieved, with the following CAG members in attendance:

Irene Kornelly – Chair and CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board
Ian Hartley – Vice Chair
Jack Wallick – CAG Secretary
Mary Barber – Alternate Representative to the FCWD Governing Board and Web Manager
Christine Lowenberg
David Woolley

CAG Members Not Present:

Nancy Bernard
Tom Ready
Judith Rice-Jones
Josh Watkins – TAC Representative to the CAG

Also in Attendance:

Larry Small, FCWD Executive Director
Alli Schuch, Outreach Coordinator
Aaron Sutherlin, Matrix Design Group
David Lord
Jamie Valdez, Sierra Club and Fountain Creek Water Sentinels
Velma Campbell, Sierra Club and Fountain Creek Water Sentinels
Rick Ringler, Sierra Club and Fountain Creek Water Sentinels

- 2. Approve Agenda of Meeting.**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the amended September 13, 2019 Agenda was approved.

- 3. Approve Minutes of the August 9, 2019 Meeting.**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, Minutes of the August 9, 2019 Meeting were approved.

4. Presentation: Pueblo Channel Design, Aaron Sutherlin, Matrix Design Group. Aaron presented the final, 100 percent, design for the Pueblo Channel Project. The design work was partially funded by a grant from the Colorado Water Conservation Board. That grant has now been closed out, and the project is ready to go to construction. The project includes five WARSSS reaches (PC053, PC054, PC055, PC115, and PC116), some of which were high priority. Together they are contributing 15,000 tons of sediment to Fountain Creek annually.

- The existing channel through those reaches is too wide, causing the velocity to be too low, resulting in sediment deposition. A well-functioning reach should be capable of conveying whatever sediment enters it all the way to its end, rather than depositing it somewhere in the reach.
- In addition to improving the stream's sediment transport, the project aims to restore the banks to eliminate sediment currently eroding into the creek.
- The design features bank and channel reshaping and revegetation. A meandering planform will allow for a narrower channel, while giving designers the ability to tweak slope/velocity to desired levels. The new channel cross-section features a channel within the channel to allow both low and high flow regimes to move with sufficient velocity. Bankfull flow was designed for a flow of 3,000 CFS. The low flow inner channel is designed for just over 100 CFS.
- Rip rap, 2 foot to 3 foot size, will armor the bank where required.
- The design process went through several stages, guided by stakeholder reviews and modeling.
- The revegetation plan includes coir fabric and coconut blanket, seeding, willow cuttings, and cottonwood poles.
- Matrix estimates construction cost at just over \$3 million.
- The project is going to bid this fall, with construction through fall and winter, ending in spring of 2020.
- In response to a question, Aaron explained that the plan is to access the site using a former park maintenance road near 13th Street, on the east side.

5. Reports.

a. Governing Board Meeting. Larry Small reported on the August 23 Board meeting.

- The Board heard a presentation by Heather Bergman on collaboration.
- The Board signed a letter of engagement with Steve Attencio, attorney, on a retainer basis.
- The Enterprise Board approved a purchase order of \$300,000 for Barr Farms Phase II toewood.
- The next meeting will be September 27.

b. TAC Meeting. Larry reported the TAC heard 60 percent design presentation for the Riverside Project by El Paso County.

c. Outreach Group. Allison reported on Outreach issues.

- Creek Week now has 87 registered sites, with more coming. The mix is about half public/half private events. Sites range geographically from Palmer Lake in the north to Trinidad in the south.
- We've generated about \$15,000 in cash sponsorships.
- Fundraisers by Brewshed participants, official proclamations of support by the various

counties, cities and towns, and more are bringing interest to Creek Week.

- Some of our breweries are participating in Pawtoberfest, handing out pet waste bags and spreading the word about water and watershed protection.
- The Pikes Peak Library District is partnering by sponsoring a podcast by Allison and giving space for posters and literature.
- A UCCS teacher will be leading an E coli study and awareness project as part of a class involving students in finding ways to reach various audiences.
- Allison spent some time explaining the streamlined registration process. David Woolley has been instrumental in the improved process.
- Allison has a Watershed Outreach Document for Creek Week crew leaders to help spread further awareness of the Watershed to participants.
- Larry added to Allison's Outreach report by saying that officials from Colorado College will be at next month's Board meeting to give the details of the college's new Watershed Outreach support effort involving six student internships devoted to our Outreach efforts. In addition to that support, we will again hire a CC intern next spring and summer to work with Allison.

d. Monetary Mitigation Fund Advisory Committee. Irene reported that the committee did not meet in August. Their next meeting will be September 17, at Pueblo Public Works at 10:30, versus the usual 10:00.

- Larry commented that there is a draft 2020 Capital Plan, but the committee will have to decide out of the four possible projects and approve anywhere from none to two of them. The Hanson Creek Trailhead Project, with El Paso County, is one of those.
- Irene predicted a lively discussion, and reminded visitors that meetings are open to the public.

e. Website. There was nothing to new to report.

6. Current Business. Larry reported on current projects.

- Barr Farms Phase I is about to close out.
- Piñon is closed out at about \$200,000 under original contract price.
- As presented earlier, the Pueblo Channel Design is done and Larry expects to have a Contractor start in October.
- Overton Road is at the 60 percent design point.
- The Flood Plain Management Opportunities Study is looking at types of projects and locations, but no specifics. The next stakeholders meeting September 19th at Matrix. An email invitation to all will be sent out.
- The grant opportunity for greenway master plan has been decided but cannot be revealed until later this month. A companion grant for \$100,000 from Colorado Parks and Wildlife was applied for, with that process moving to oral presentations in November.

7. Other Business. Brownfield Grant. Christine Lowenberg reported on the recent award of an EPA grant of \$600,000 to District 11, Colorado Springs Utilities, and Colorado Springs for assessment of properties around Shooks Run and Fountain Creek in a redevelopment plan. The grant money will help the city pay for third-party crews to measure levels of harmful contaminants in the ground including ammonia, lead and asbestos. The project is tied in with the

Envision Shooks Run Master Plan. Christine thinks it would be good for the District to become involved.

Discussion on Watershed Collaboration. Irene and Mary reported on the presentation given to the Board by Heather Bergman.

- A broad coalition of people in the area are exploring a collaboration to promote the watershed and recreation, trails, and open space.
- David Lord spoke on the issue, saying that there are a lot of actors involved in trying to tie together all the work in the watershed. He feels that a unified approach is needed. It has been proposed that the CAG might be the platform around which these efforts might coalesce. He felt that there was support from the philanthropic community. Names dropped include Mayor Suthers and Kathy Loo. He was to meet with Larry the following week.
- Heather Bergman, a facilitator involved in the establishment of the District, is facilitating this movement.
- After hearing Heather's presentation, the Board's direction to Larry was "Continue to explore the subject."

8. Public Comment. There was no public comment.

9. Next Meeting. The next meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. October 11, 2019, at Fountain City Hall, 116 S. Main, Fountain, CO.

10. Adjourn:

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:27 a.m.