

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

**Draft Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2020**

The meeting was held online via Zoom

- 1. Call to Order, Establish Quorum and Introductions** The June 12, 2020 meeting of the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District (FCWD) Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) was called to order by Mr. Ian Hartley, Vice Chair, at about 9:30 a.m. A quorum was noted, with the following CAG members attending via Zoom.

Ian Hartley – Vice Chair

Mary Barber – Alternate Representative to the FCWD Governing Board and Web Manager

Annie Berlemann – TAC Representative to the CAG

Jack Wallick – Secretary

Velma Campbell

Judith Rice-Jones

Jamie Valdez

David Woolley

CAG Members Not Present:

Irene Kornelly – Chair and CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board

Nancy Bernard

Tom Ready

Also in Attendance:

Bill Banks, FCWD Executive Director

Larry Small, FCWD Executive Director, Emeritus

Greg Lauer, FCWD Board Member and Fountain City Council Member

Alli Schuch, FCWD Outreach Coordinator

Richard Ringler

Izzy Tils, FCWD Outreach Intern

Kevin Binkley, TAC Secretary, Colorado Springs Utilities

- 2. Approve Agenda of Meeting.**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the June 12, 2020 Agenda was approved.

- 3. Approve May 8, 2020 Minutes.**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the May 8, 2020 Minutes were approved.

4. Presentations: There were no presentations.

5. Reports.

a. Governing Board Meeting. Bill Banks reported on the May 22nd Governing Board meeting.

- The Greenway Plan contract was amended to account for a \$100,000 grant.
- The Board heard the presentation on the Southmoor Drive project.
- The design work for Southmoor Drive was assigned to Matrix for \$25,000.
 - There were questions to Bill concerning the scope of the project concerning risks to the wastewater plant on the north WARSSS project.
 - Bill felt that the risks are very low because it's on the inside of the curve, which is less vulnerable than the bank on the outside curve.
 - Larry added that it would take a 500-year flood to overtop the bank at the treatment plant.
 - It appears the topic will continue to be addressed throughout the project lifetime.

b. TAC Meeting. Annie Berlemann reported on the June 3rd TAC meeting.

- Colorado Springs Utilities Engineering gave a presentation on a bank stabilization project at Clear Springs Ranch. They armored the bank and actually anchored it into the bedrock.
- The TAC also recognized September 18th as the likely date for the tour.

c. Outreach Group. Alli Schuch reported on Outreach activities. The June - July Outreach Report is appended to these minutes.

- We did not get the \$10,000 Ocean Conservancy grant for Creek Week. We did, however, get \$925 from Arkansas Basin Public Education and Public Outreach (PEPO) toward Creek Cleanup Kits (bucket with grabbers, gloves, bags, etc.) that will be distributed to crew leaders.
- We applied for a \$5,000 grant from Clif Bar.
- Allie is meeting with the Utilities Forestry Department, with regard to using Sonderman Park as a riparian restoration demonstration area. Mesa Creek, a tributary of Monument Creek, flows through there. Judith Rice Jones brought up the issue of an abandoned dump containing hazardous waste in the park. She asked if anyone had an update. Alli reported that she had seen city trucks cleaning up the area. Kevin Binkley of Utilities responded that it's being done under the CDPHE Voluntary Clean-Up guidelines and there should be further information available on that site.
- Creek Week sponsor letters are going out.
- A new activity this year is "Run Up to Creek Week", a virtual run fundraiser. Anytime up to 10 days prior to Creek Week, people can register, pick up their race packet, and do a 5K run or 1 mile walk, or whatever, at their own pace, in their own neighborhood or wherever. Cost to participate is \$30 and the runner gets a bib, race medal, a headband/buff, and more. Allie is working with local runners groups like Jack Quinn's Running Club, the Brewers Cup, and others. Alli hopes to get 30 participants and bring in \$1,500.
- Alli is working to get the 2020 Brewshed Alliance and map expanded ahead of Creek Week. PubDog, Trinity Brewing, and Pikes Peak Brewing are new members, as well as hopes for Pueblo pubs and breweries this year.
- The next installment of Liquid Lectures will feature the Fountain Creek Water Sentinels.
- Izzy Tils, our 2020 Creek Week intern, introduced herself and the initiatives she's working on to promote Creek Week.

- Izzy is a senior at Colorado College, majoring in Environmental Policy.
- She has created a Fountain Creek Watershed District page (fountaincreekwatershed) on Instagram to speak to a younger demographic. Updates are shared across Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Alli added that we also have a YouTube channel. She and Izzy did a brief video of the Mesa Xeriscape garden. More will come.
- A YouTube video series “Discover My Watershed” has been set up in cooperation with TOSC, the Trails and Open Space Coalition, with the first installment featuring Cottonwood Creek. The hope is for a new video every other week. See it on any of our social media pages or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDyuHxHOUaM&t=0s>
- A photo contest is also in the works, with the goal of crowd-sourcing more photos for the website and newsletter. Submit photos highlighting the watershed to any of our social media pages.

d. Monetary Mitigation Fund Advisory Committee. There was no report.

e. Website and Facebook Page. Mary Barber and David Woolley discussed the website’s recent hiccup. They were able to restore it from a back up. Some information may still need to be reloaded. They ask that users report problems.

6. Current Business

- **Project Reports** Bill reported on the progress of active projects.
 - Overton Road is complete with the exception of the boundary fence.
 - The Barr Farm project is complete, and the last invoices have been paid.
 - The 13th Street project is awaiting the Corps District Engineer’s signature.
 - Southmoor Drive might be the next project, depending on what the Monetary Mitigation Committee recommends. It’s the most urgent project under consideration at this time.
- Mary asked for details on the Riverside Lane project in Fountain. She commented that she had seen equipment working in the creek recently. Annie reported that it’s an El Paso County project, and that we’ll get a presentation sometime in the future.
- The Fountain Creek projects tour will be September 18, tentatively.

7. New Business.

Judith Rice Jones asked whether the city purchase of land around the quarry would lead to any water quality problems in the creek. Larry Small reported that when he was on council the city had agreed to take over the area when restoration was complete. At this time the State is studying the reclamation plan, and reclamation is not only incomplete, but is expected to be difficult and long term.

8. Public Comment. There were no public comments.

9. Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held July 10 virtually via Zoom, or at the City of Fountain, City Hall, 116 S. Main, Fountain, CO. Members will be notified prior to the next meeting.

10. Adjourn:

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:18 a.m.

Appendix

JUNE - JULY 2020 WATERSHED OUTREACH COORDINATOR REPORT

6/15 Creek Week steering committee calls, Liquid Lecture marketing, CW fun run planning, PR meeting
6/16 Sponsorship calls, Steering Committee meeting prep, meeting with Dana from El Paso County Parks, tour of maintenance shop with Izzy, video series planning
6/17 District MMF meeting, CW agenda development
6/18 Creek Week Steering Committee Meeting and follow ups
6/22 Liquid Lecture marketing, sponsorship follow ups, social media planning
6/23 Liquid Lecture planning meeting, COVID waiver research
6/24 Website support, updating Brewshed membership and poster, Virtual Liquid Lecture: Fountain Creek Water Sentinels, plastic webinar
6/25 Sonderman Park restoration site walk-through – confirmed will do a project there during Creek Week with City Forestry Dept., Izzy support/planning
6/26 Creek Week budget and planning, timeline update, FCWD Board Meeting
6/29 Creek Week supplies research, Save the Date card edits, fun run planning, grant writing
6/30 Pueblo meeting planning, PR work
7/1 FCWD TAC meeting, Creek Week Crew Leader training meeting with Kristin
7/2 CW planning, Izzy support/planning, social media work
7/6 COVID messaging meeting with Steve and Bill, PR meeting and work, Creek Week planning and training video updates