



PLAN JEFFCO UPDATE

MAY 2013

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SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH

Plan Jeffco, with co-sponsorship from the Open Space Department and the Open Space Foundation, will be holding a conference November 16 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. The conference will focus on **“The Next 40 Years of Jeffco Open Space Conservation.”** The conference will be on that Saturday morning, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

It will be a great opportunity to learn:

What the demographics of the metro area are and how they will change.

How the recreation needs of the population will change.

How local climate change will affect the parks.

How outdoor activities benefit the populace.

How to balance expanding the areas of preservation with increased use of the parks.

How Jeffco Parks (Open Space, Fairgrounds, CSU Extension) plan to accommodate these changes.

The scheduled speakers and their subjects include:

Amy Ito-Jeffco (Planning and Construction Manager-Jeffco Open Space Department) - **“2013 Parks Plan Update”**

Dr. Mike Bowker (National Forest Service) - **“Recreation Trends and Preferences in Front Range National Forests”**

Dr. Mark B. Johnson (Executive Director of Jefferson County Department of Health and the Environment.) - **“Health and the Outdoors”**

Dr. Daniel Jerrett (Regional Economist, Denver Regional Council of Governments) - **“Economic and Demographic Trends in the Denver Region”**

Dr. Jim Hurrell (Director of Earth Science Laboratory at the National Center for Atmospheric Research) - **“The Science of Climate Change: From Global to Local Scales”**

John Sovall/Pam White (Colorado State University, Colorado Natural Heritage Program) - **“Jeffco Survey of Critical Biological Resources/the Benefits of Conserving Biodiversity”**

Dr. Sarah Reed/Dr. Sarah L. Thomas (Colorado State University/Center for the American West at University of Colorado) - **“Balancing Recreation Access and Conservation Objectives in Open Space Programs”**

Dr. Mat Alldredge (Wildlife Researcher -Colorado Parks and Wildlife) - **“Impacts of Humans on Wildlife in the Front Range”**

Jeffco Outdoors Foundation

At their January 8, 2013 meeting, the Board of Directors of the Jeffco Open Space Foundation voted to change the name of the Foundation to the Jeffco Outdoors Foundation and to revise its objectives.

The Open Space Foundation was organized strictly for charitable and educational purposes as a 501(c)3 Private Foundation. The specific purposes for which the Foundation was organized were to receive, solicit, administer and disburse gifts, grants, devises, bequests or other conveyances of real and personal property or the income derived therefrom for the benefit of the Jefferson County Open Space Department upon a request from the director of the Jefferson County Open Space Department.

Being a Private Foundation has put limitations on being able to solicit grants and contributions and, in many cases, employer matches cannot go to a Private Foundation.

The Jeffco Outdoors Foundation will be a 501(c)3 public charity which will support public and nonprofit organizations that preserve parks, open space and remarkable places, and provide quality outdoor recreation opportunities and educational programs that foster conservation and health. As such, Jeffco Outdoors will help fund innovative programs that get children and families connected with nature and the outdoors. The Jeffco Outdoors website will provide information on parks, outdoor recreation opportunities, educational programs and the health benefits associated with getting outdoors. Jeffco Outdoors will publish regional maps showcasing public parks, outdoor recreation opportunities, regional trail connections and fun points of interest along the way for eight regions of Jefferson County. Jeffco Outdoors will continue to accept contributions of land, property, and funds for acquisition of open space park land in Jefferson County.

Note that use of Jeffco Outdoors funds will not be limited to Jefferson County but will be used metro-wide, upon approval of the Board of Directors. Once legal incorporation of Jeffco Outdoors is complete, the present Board of Directors will be expanded and will include members from throughout the Metro area.

Learn more about the Jeffco Outdoors Foundation at <http://www.jeffcooutdoors.org/#>!



Party for Parks

The first fund-raising effort of Jeffco Outdoors was the Party for Parks, held April 5 at the Red Rocks Visitor Center. The event celebrated the 100th Anniversary of Denver Mountain Parks, the 40th Anniversary of the Jefferson County Open Space Program, and the 20th Anniversary of Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO). Jan Wilkins and Greg Stevinson were co-chairs of the 14-member organizing committee and another 70 volunteers.

From 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. a new video on the benefits of outdoor recreation, open space and parks was shown continuously. Major hors d'oeuvres were served by Aramark, there was opportunity to bid on silent auction items, and a lot of time was available for conversation and to listen to bluegrass music by Dr. Harlan's Amazing Bluegrass Tonic. At 8:00 p.m. there were remarks from Greg Stevinson, Governor Hickenlooper, the Denver City Council President, County Commissioner Don Rosier, and GOCO Executive Director Lise Aangeenbrug.

These were followed by a live auction of six unusual items, and a separate paddle raiser event, to solicit funds for Jeffco Outdoors.

More than 250 supporters attended the event. Contributions from sponsors totaled more than \$100,000 and the net from the event was more than \$90,000.

All attendees received a copy of the first regional parks and open spaces map. This map covers the Bear Creek drainage, from Kittredge to Kipling Street and Apex Park on the North to Highway 285 on the South. Maps from the initial printing are available at the Open Space office. A second printing will allow maps to be available at other locations.

You can read more about Party for the Parks at https://www.co.jefferson.co.us/news/news_item_np_T9_R2977.htm.

Apex Park Trailhead

Apex Park sees approximately 50,000 visitors each year, with a high percentage of mountain bikers. The lower trailhead has had few improvements in the near 40-year life of the park. This is about to change. This summer Open Space will be connecting into the Golden water main that serves Heritage Square. Plans are to do some grading to improve the drainage, especially where the trail intersects Golden's Kinney Run Trail; construct a permanent restroom connected to the Martin Marietta Materials sewer line; add three handicapped-accessible parking spaces; construct a new Park Information Kiosk; provide water to a drinking fountain as well as a bottle filler and a pet bowl; extend the concrete Kinney Run Trail to the restroom; and formalize the park entrance with a ranch gate cap and define the parking area boundary.

Adding a Mountain Bike Skills Trail also has been proposed; it has received significant support at the community meetings. You can find a description of Apex Park at http://jeffco.us/openspace/openspace_T56_R4.htm.

For more information on the Apex Park Trailhead Project go to http://jeffco.us/jeffco/openspace_uploads/Apex_Park_Project_Information_3_20_13.pdf

Wildland Awareness & Educational Institute

WAEI, the Wildland Awareness & Educational Institute, is the new kid on the block among organizations whose focus is to connect people, especially youngsters, to nature. Susanne and Bret Roller, former district wildlife manager for State Division of Wildlife and professional outdoorsman & guide, respectively, established WAEI in 2008 with the mission “to raise awareness of natural resources and outdoor recreation, to cultivate tomorrow’s conservation leaders and to foster a sense of appreciation for the natural world through engaging young adults, women and families in the outdoors.”

So what makes WAEI different from other organizations which seek to do very similar things? In interview, Susanne Roller stated that one of the unique features of WAEI is that they are not afraid to look outside the box for answers, to shift the paradigm from targeting youth alone to a three-pronged model: youth within the family structure; collegiate young adults; and women.

As Roller explained their philosophy, “...selecting targeted audiences where we can have the largest impact with the smallest number of resources in the shortest amount of time has become our obsession.” Using a methodical and diagnostic approach, WAEI sought to identify measurable objectives in their outdoor programs, and to determine if these objectives were being met. “If we ran a program”, said Roller, “we expected the program to result in new outdoor enthusiasts - new outdoor participants.”

In the process of measuring the success of their programs, WAEI ended up shifting focus from targeting youth only to targeting families, and also targeting college students. Even more surprising, targeting those with no predisposition for outdoor pursuits or activities has resulted in the greatest number of converts. Bret Roller explains this seeming dichotomy in the following way:

“If you think back to why the outdoors is important to you, we bet you can think of a place, an event, maybe a particular animal that sparked your interest. That touched your soul. It was unlikely that the event was born of being taught in a classroom about how an

ecosystem functions or through reading a biology book. It was likely an [emotional and personal] experience and that is what we must provide. Through hands-on recreational experiences, the outdoor enthusiast is born. The hunter develops a connection that cannot easily be put into words for those that do not take up the hunt. The hunter becomes the voice for the habitat. The angler becomes the voice for our waterways. The birder becomes the voice for our riparian areas. The hiker becomes the voice for the landscape. This is what collectively we can all work towards.”

THE FAMILIES PROGRAM



With youth from toddler through about age 17, parental participation is the largest factor in whether or not a child continues in outdoor pursuits, says Roller. She also highlighted special age-related challenges they face. For instance, the challenge of youth ages 6 to 12 is that the family must be involved in outdoor activities in order

for the kids to sustain their interest, while for the 12 to 17 set, the challenge is that they'd rather hang with their peers than with their folks. Circumventing challenges like this is a huge part of WAEI's continuing program development.

Roller states that WAEI works with other organizations in the development, creation, and delivery of “Family Workshops”, full-day events where parents or care givers are **required** to participate in the activity with their youngsters. Before and after lunch there are multi-hour activities which might range from wildlife ID to hiking to camping to fishing to archery, and even to map/compass/GPS use and firearm safety. The next step

WAEI, Continued

is to then connect those families to our open spaces, allowing them to duplicate what they've learned in the WAEI programs.

<http://www.waei.org/courses/>

THE COLLEGIATE PROGRAM



The collegiate program is one of WAEI's most successful, and Roller's favorite. The program sells itself; it provides one elective credit toward graduation at CSU and UNC while getting college students out of the classroom and into the outdoors – what's not to love about a program like this?

Roller feels that this program has the most potential for positive impact, for two reasons: 1) the credit toward graduation brings in those who have no predisposition for the outdoors, thus breaking new ground in prospective supporters of Open Space; and 2) 98% of participants continue some form of recreation following the course, according to post-course surveys. Some 46% immediately purchase equipment, from archery to fishing to guidebooks, and seek out opportunities for continued participation, adding support to the outdoor recreation economy. These people vote, and they should become conservation-minded voters. The 700+ students who have gone through the WAEI collegiate program to

date are part of the next generation of parents and leaders; it is WAEI's hope that, following their exposure to the program, these students will become life-long supporters of conservation.

The growth of the collegiate program was what spurred WAEI to create their outdoor classroom. As Roller explained, WAEI recognized the need to create an outdoor space where students of all ages, from family groups to college students to adults, can come together with partner organizations such as JeffCo Open Space, to learn about the outdoors. Roller's vision for the space is that it should be a place where restrictions do not inhibit the ability to fully teach about the outdoors, that it become the place where participants begin a life-long love affair with the outdoors. Once comfortable, the WAEI student can transfer skills learned to other public lands.

<http://www.waei.org/outdoor-workshops/college-students/>

THE WOMEN'S PROGRAM



Currently, WAEI is doing one-day classes for groups of women (10 or more) on a request-only basis. Prior to the downturn in the economy, they were hosting two women's weekends per year in a nationally-known program called "Becoming an Outdoors-Woman", located at guest ranches around the state. Now, the cost of renting a guest ranch facility has put the fee out of the reach of most women. WAEI's

goal is affordability as well as education (and conversion to an outdoors-lover), so that every mom, teacher, grandmother, aunt, sister and female friend could take part in these retreats. WAEI is building its own outdoor classroom with support and recommendations from its

WAEI, Continued

partners on 60 acres in the Conifer area. Once this is complete, they plan to offer a robust women's program at an affordable rate, and offer hands-on classes for large groups during weekends, in addition to hosting the growing collegiate program. The Greater Denver Area is home to more than 97,000 college students. Using this facility for their own programs, and making it available to other agencies and organizations that seek to connect youth and young adults to the outdoor world is a major goal of WAEI.

<http://www.waei.org/outdoor-workshops/becoming-an-outdoors-woman/>

FUTURE CHALLENGES

Of all the challenges facing Open Space and its continuity through the coming decades, Roller sees a disturbing trend – age. According to research done by Roller, in 2008, the average age of outdoor enthusiasts is 55. It's apparent that, as those folks hang up their hiking boots, they are not being replaced by younger users of the outdoors. Peter Kareiva, chief scientist for The Nature Conservancy, believes the lack of connection to the outdoors is today's largest threat facing conservation. The most-numerous group of users should be within the 20 to 30 year-old range and it should replenish itself, meaning that, as individuals age, this group continues to be a major segment of those who enjoy the outdoors. This is not happening today.

Partnership Make a Difference

WAEI partnered with the Wildlife Management Institute, an organization founded in 1911, which hosts the national North American Wildlife and Natural Resource conferences, held annually. WMI helped to strengthen the evaluations and measures which WAEI uses to determine its impact and success. These measures, plus the research WAEI does when designing their programs, is the paradigm shift which sets WAEI apart from the crowd.

<http://www.wildlifemanagementinstitute.org/>

WAEI attributes its success to the support and belief of its partners; working in partnership is key to making things happen. Partners include Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Safari Club International, John Fielder's Colorado, National Park Service, USFS, USGS, numerous non-profits, Wyoming Game and Fish, and dozens more, all listed on the WAEI website, www.waei.org



Were replenishment of that critical age demographic to happen, then we could be assured that the children were connecting to nature. If, at age 20 and on their own, these folks were to become regular users of the outdoors, then we could breathe easy about the future of Open Space. So it fits within the mission of WAEI as they reach out directly to these age groups – the 20-year-olds in the colleges, who become immediate and life-long users of the outdoors, and the 30-45 year old parents with families. Their different approach to engaging youth in the outdoors may be the secret sauce that sustains Open Space for the next 40 years, or the next 100!

The Challenges

The major environmental challenge in the beginning of the 20th century was species recovery. During the last quarter of the 20th Century, the challenge shifted to include land preservation and open space connectivity – shielding open space from suburban and exurban development while leaving wildlife corridors intact. The challenge for the beginning of the 21st Century lies in connecting and engaging youth to the outdoor world. If we fail, the end of the next 40 years of PLAN Jeffco will look vastly different than today – our society will be largely devoid of those that hold a land ethic at heart, who value our open spaces and public lands. ~
Susanne Roller, WAEI ~

Crown Hill Park

The Open Space Department has had an on-going, five-year program on making repairs and changes at Crown Hill Park. During the initial years of the program, the improvements were to the natural surface trails, where crusher fines were added to level the trails and make them more useable in wet weather. Beginning in 2013, the County Road & Bridge Department replaced many sections of the hard surface trails that needed repair or rerouting. Additional plans were to make a small area for handicapped parking and JCOS maintenance staff, replace the restrooms, replace the fitness equipment, replace the small gazebo north of the main parking lot with a larger shade structure north of the restroom, and add a nature play area east of the parking lot.

After a Community meeting in March and an on-line survey, it was determined that there was not enough support to add the nature play area. Construction will proceed in late summer on the parking lot addition and new restroom. The results of the on-line survey showed about 50% support for a shade structure and replacement of the fitness equipment.

A second community meeting was held April 30. Two alternates were proposed for the shade structure and the fitness equipment. Attendees were asked to rate the alternates and provide reasons for their choices. Although many of the 150 or so in attendance wanted nothing, it appeared that about 30% were in favor of an 8-foot-tall, semi-circular structure and about 40% were in favor of replacing four of the exercise stations with new equipment. A decision on the fitness equipment and shade structure has been made after review of all the comment sheets. The existing exercise stations will be removed, the existing shade structure will remain, and a new shade structure will not be erected. The water tap size will be increased from the present 1-inch to 1-1/2-inches to accommodate the new restroom and allow for more irrigation within the 1-acre surrounding the restroom.

Suggestions made during the public process will continue to be explored during the annual park management planning process, including:

- Adding a berm along Kipling
- Developing a program to manage pet waste
- Addressing concerns about work quality on the recently completed trails
- Adding blinds to the observation area in the wildlife sanctuary
- Conducting more nature education programs and providing toolkits for families
- Planting more trees (outside the one acre area)
- Alternative exercise apparatus
- Alternative ideas for shade

May 4 was the 3rd Annual “Spring into Service” project sponsored by the Colorado Mountain Club, REI, and Jeffco Open Space. About 220 volunteers participated in this project at Crown Hill Park. The service activities were maintenance-oriented: spreading and leveling crusher fines on about ¾ mile of natural surface trail; leveling the shoulders along the hard surface trail around the lake; preparing a number of social trails for revegetation and completing the revegetation on some. Trust that we have a cool and slightly moist May for the revegetation to take hold. It was nice to see a number of the “Friends of Crown Hill” participating - strengthening their love for this unique park.

For more information on Crown Hill Open Space Park and the on-going maintenance service schedule, go to http://jeffco.us/openspace/openspace_T56_R7.htm.

Distelfinks and Dinosaurs

Sparrows don't quite do it for me: I look at them and I clearly see birds, normal birds, hopping on the ground looking for seed or flying around. But distelfinks are different. *Distelfink*, literally "thistle finch," is a handy word still used by the Pennsylvania Dutch for a group of birds that reminded them of the colorful finches of their homeland. It's both memorable and descriptive, as distelfinks of all species adore thistles—in season, of course. Perhaps you've encountered flocks of pine siskins and lesser goldfinches raiding roadside thistle patches in fall, and fluttering wildly away as each car passes. For me, it's less trouble to say "distelfink" than to list all our yellow finches—pine siskins and American goldfinches and lesser goldfinches—and our pinkish-red finches—purple, house, and Cassin's finches. Other birds never act like dinosaurs. Distelfinks do, at least at my house.

Scientists who study fossils have, of late, been trying to tell us birds are actually dinosaurs: watching distelfinks makes me a believer. Ounce for ounce, they must be among the most aggressive dinosaurs left alive. This is made apparent by their habit of congregating in mixed flocks for fall and winter feeding. After all, most of us get a little irritable in crowds. Pine siskins are the worst. As they fight for space at the thistle feeder in our yard, they hiss and spit at each other, flashing the yellow under their wings and adopting threatening postures. Sometimes I think firebreathing dragons are the true missing link between birds and other dinosaurs, the extinct ones.

All this aggression is presumably brought about by the survival value of simply getting enough food. Small birds come together in numbers because of the advantages flocking offers: better protection and a warning system for predators. Flocking also means more eyes on the lookout for good food sources, but you still have to get your share while dozens of your fellows try to get theirs. Picture the noon crowd at your local food court.

Fortunately, we have a lot of thistle patches around. Therein arises one of those conundrums of conservation. Plant enthusiasts are trying to eliminate exotic thistles; bird enthusiasts enjoy thistle patches for the many birds they support. Although we have a variety of native thistles, most don't thrive quite the way foreign invaders like musk and Canada thistle do. Have we improved habitat for distelfinks by allowing alien thistles to spread unchecked these last hundred years? Yes and no. Native

birds do have alternatives: pine siskins are aptly named because they pick at pine cones as successfully as at thistles; American goldfinches are equally happy eating sunflower or dandelion seeds. Although their numbers may have increased with new food supplies, I don't think removing exotic thistles will drive distelfinks toward extinction.

Flocking, or perhaps we'd better call it herding, probably also provided similar advantages to some dinosaur species. Communal dinosaur nesting grounds in Montana remind us of today's seabird colonies, substituting groups of 25-foot-long duckbills who return to the same place year after year to nest together and care for their young. A herd of these *Maiasaura* migrating from nesting areas to feeding grounds might foreshadow the long migrations our flying dinosaurs make today.



Illustration by Jan Ratcliffe, © 1995

Distelfinks and Dinosaurs, Continued

I imagine the pine siskins as coelurosaurs: scrappy, ostrich-like dinosaurs who may have hunted in groups. Solitary eagles are more reminiscent of lone hunters like *Tyrannosaurus rex*. A small peregrine falcon may recall *Velociraptor*; both have a strike that is quick and deadly.

Paleontologists have given us a lot to think about with this bird connection. Just think—now you can study dinosaurs in your own backyard! Much of our understanding of the past must come from our knowledge of the present, because Nature still works much as it did during the Cretaceous Period. Even scientists use their imagination, and often reason from analogy as well as from hard facts. As the famous geologist James Hutton once put it: *The present is the key to the past*. So if you want to see dinosaurs at home, and speculate on Earth's older inhabitants, you're in good company. I should warn you, however, that the bird specialists have not yet fully accepted this new, closer link between dinosaurs and

birds.

Because birds are ubiquitous and seem to be a harmless background presence, we don't consciously notice how thoroughly they've occupied "our" world. When you think about it, they're everywhere. In and amongst our supposedly dominant culture, birds as a group continue to thrive and still live a variety of lifestyles. They are, however, showing the effects of our presence and the pressures we put on them; too many are disappearing. Those earlier dinosaurs, in their heyday, must have similarly dominated their environment, and eventually succumbed, perhaps due to some similar pressure. May the distelfinks last as long.

OSAC NOTES

February 7 Study Session: was a presentation by Colleen Gadd and Ben Stanley on the duties of the Park Rangers and their observations over the years. The rangers are responsible for general recreation management in the parks, providing emergency response, enforcing the park rules, and providing general assistance.

Regular Session: Approved a Go-Forth Resolution for negotiation of parts or all of three properties adjacent to the Pine Valley Road, Highway 126, for the acquisition of the Etive Slabs, an excellent beginner and intermediate rock climbing area. Approved an easement for a natural surface road to allow access to a private property adjacent to Mt Galbraith Park. Approved accepting some uncommitted fees in lieu of land dedication from the Planning Department.

Public comments were heard relative to the changes at Crown Hill Park.

March 7 meeting was cancelled.

April 4 Study Session: Mike Morin, Outdoor Recreation Coordinator, moderated a presentation on Connecting Youth and Families to Nature. Six organizations made presentations on their programs for connecting youth and families to nature.

Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education works to bring environmental awareness into the classroom.

Colorado Parks & Wildlife has many events including campfire programs in state parks, fishing clinics, outdoor skills events, etc.

The CSU Extension at the Fairgrounds conducts the ENOR (Eagle Nest Owl Roost) program of the week-long, nature oriented day camps for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders in Open Space Parks.

Lookout Mountain Nature Center sponsors a Junior Ranger program with structured play and training, sponsors festivals at the parks, and campfire programs at Lair O' the Bear park.

OSAC NOTES, Continued

The Colorado Mountain Club has after-school and summer programs to teach kids how to safely cope with the Colorado mountains, while integrating principles of physics, biology, geology, etc. into the lessons/play.

Wildland Awareness and Educational Institute presently is focusing on a college student program in outdoor education, but does have some family programs, and is creating an outdoor lab in Conifer. See article in this newsletter.

There was **no regular meeting**, but Tom Hoby did make a Director's Report. The significant item was that Open Space will not proceed with the nature play area in Crown Hill Park. The survey and other inputs were inconclusive on the other items and a decision will wait until after the April 30th Community Meeting.

Elk Meadow Dog Park received a national award from the Society of Outdoor Recreational Professionals.

The Open Space Advisory committee has two new members. Michael Dungan is a Lakewood resident and was appointed as a City representative. Michael is a Civil Engineer and was Vice President and CFO of Muller Engineering until his recent retirement. Janet Shangraw is a South Jeffco resident and was appointed as an alternate. Janet is a Surface Water Hydrologist and previously served on the Board of Foothills Park and Recreation District.

May 2 Study Session: Amy Ito, Manager of Park Planning & Construction, reviewed the phases in the present acquisition proposal process. The three phases are: 1) Evaluation, 2) Authorization, and 3) Final Terms/Transaction. The Evaluation phase includes review of the submittal and contact with the owner, staff field trip and analysis of the property, and development of a staff recommendation. The Authorization phase may include a staff and/or OSAC decision to forego, authorization by OSAC to proceed with due

diligence and negotiations followed by presenting final terms to OSAC for approval. Note that in certain circumstances final terms may be approved as part of this authorization step, and in many cases the property is within an area already approved for negotiation, such that staff can proceed directly to developing the final terms. The Final Terms/Transaction Phase includes finalization of all documentation, approval by the Board of County Commissioners, and completion of the transaction.

Discussion followed as to what improvements could be made and were there ways to speed up the process; especially in the case where an appropriate property might be in foreclosure.

Regular Meeting: After approval of the February 7 minutes, two outgoing OSAC members, Jim Lancy and Frank Barone, were acknowledged for their six years each of service on OSAC. John Litz then was honored for having completed 20 years of service on OSAC and his many other volunteer activities for Open Space. As part of this honor, a new award was created, The John Litz Award. This award will be the top honor bestowed on a volunteer and will be awarded annually to an individual who demonstrates outstanding commitment and service to Jefferson County Open Space in a way that enhances our Parks, natural resources, and life-enriching experiences afforded to Park visitors.

After a short break for refreshments, the meeting reconvened with Public Comments. Cara Snyder discussed what she observed relating to the level of and opportunity for public comment relative to the Crown Hill enhancements. David Thomas discussed the potential to allow falconry in one or more Open Space parks.

Amy Ito reviewed the process being used to develop the first Jefferson County Parks Plan that will include the Boettcher Mansion, CSU Extension, the Fairgrounds, and Open Space. The purpose of the plan is to set the direction for establishing standards and best practices for services, management, and programs, and to lead, share, and create opportunities

If you have not!!! Join PLAN Jeffco or renew your Membership today!

PLAN Jeffco is the county-wide volunteer citizen's group that organized and drafted the Open Space Resolution that resulted in the formation of the Jefferson County Open Space Program in 1972. We currently function as a watchdog group, observing meetings of the Open Space Advisory Committee, participating in subcommittees, and issues groups, proposing and working for important acquisitions, and keeping citizens informed of what is going on in their Open Space Program. PLAN Jeffco provided the leadership for the successful vote for bonds in 1998.

PLAN Jeffco works for open space and we work for you! Please sign up or renew your membership now! Your address label shows the date of your last renewal. Call 303.237.9493 for membership information.

Our membership rate is:

\$35 per year

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

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Make checks payable to PLAN Jeffco and send to:

PLAN Jeffco
11010 W 29th Avenue
Lakewood, CO 80215

Are You wired??

If you are, PLAN Jeffco would like to have you on our email tree, so that we can inform you of special events and items that may be of concern to you. We will not share your email address without permission. Please include with your dues payment or email to

jklitz@comcast.net

Thanks



OSAC Notes, Continued

for life-enriching experiences.

Goals within the plan will include:

- Create our Future – health, children, community need
- Learn Continuously – study, collaborate, research
- Share our Story – communicate, engage, dialogue, programs
- Preserve our Place – resource management, conservation
- Partner Purposefully – grants, resources, ideas
- Manage Responsibly – fiduciary, natural resources

The initial steps for public input will be during May; including:

May 16, (Thu.) 12 -1:30 pm,
Jeffco Fairgrounds, 15200 W. 6th Ave. Service Rd.

May 21, (Tue.) 6 – 7:30 pm,
Coal Creek Canyon Community Center, 31528

May 22, (Wed.) 12 – 1:30 pm, Ken Caryl
Ranch House, 7676 S. Continental Divide Rd.,

May 23, (Thu.) 12 – 1:30 pm,
Jeffco Open Space, 700 Jefferson County Parkway,

May 28, (Tue.) 6 – 7:30 pm,
Boettcher Mansion, 900 Colorow Road,

May 29, (Wed.) 6 – 7:30 pm, Conifer Area (TBD)

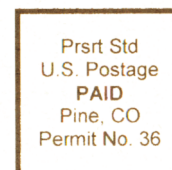
Completion of the Parks Plan is targeted for October.

In his Director's Report, Tom Hoby, acknowledged the public involvement process relative to the Apex Trailhead – see article in this newsletter, made a quick review of the April 30, Crown Hill Community Meeting, and relayed that both Clear Creek County and Jeffco unanimously selected the team of Concrete Express and Muller Engineering for the design build of the segment of the Peaks to Plains Trail to be constructed straddling the Clear Creek County line.



PLAN Jeffco
11010 W 29th Avenue
Lakewood, CO 80215

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Email: jklitz@comcast.net
Check our website
www.saveopenspace.org

Jefferson County Citizens for
Planned Growth with Open Space

PLAN JEFFCO NEWSLETTER