

1. Informational Presentation

Due to technical difficulties the TED Talk by George Monbiot entitled "For More Wonder, Rewild the World" that Roze wanted to show had to be postponed. However, Roze said she would make the talk available at the next business meeting or by email.

2. Announcements

a. ROCC Talk – February 20, 7:00 pm – Messages from the Past – Rock Art and Archeology – Carol Patterson

b. Robyn Cascade stated that there will be a presentation on Wednesday, January 29 at 7PM in the Ridgway Community Center entitled "Prairie Dogs in Southwest Colorado". The speaker will be Amy Seglund who is the Wildlife Conservation Coordinator with Colorado Parks and Wildlife. She will talk about both the Gunnison and White-Tailed Prairie Dogs in Colorado.

c. Rachel Zatterstrom, who is Western Colorado Congress's communications point person with ROCC, was not able to make the meeting this evening so she asked Robyn Cascade to talk about the Colorado Cottage Food Act, which Western Colorado Congress (WCC) is supporting. She said they would try to expand the coverage of the act to acidified foods and fermented foods this year. The act requires local producers to take a food safety course and allows food to be prepared in a home kitchen. WCC is trying to recruit Latino leaders and other members of the Latino Community to work on local food issues. WCC is also looking for volunteers to make phone calls on local food issues.

3. Treasurer's Report – Scott Williams

Scott reported that as of January 14, 2014 ROCC has a net worth of \$17,469.12. And for the month of January, 2014 so far ROCC has income of \$862.92 and no expenses.

He also reported that for the 2013 calendar year ROCC had a net income of \$835.59, which resulted from a total income of \$11,682.38 and total expenses of \$10,846.79. And as of December 31, 2013 ROCC had a net worth of \$16,606.20.

Scott stated that the new Board of Director members need to be put on the signature card for ROCC's bank account.

It was also mentioned that the Grants Committee would meet to consider persons who might be recipients of ROCC scholarship grants. Scott volunteered to be a member of this committee since the Treasurer should be a member of the committee.

4. Committee Reports

a. Public Lands – Jim Stephenson

Jim reported that the WCC/ROCC booth at the Ouray Ice Festival was a resounding success. During the three-day festival last weekend the volunteers manning the booth collected some 600 completed postcards from attendees who supported the Mt. Sneffels Wilderness Act. Next week more volunteers will canvas the City of Ouray business community to garner support for this act, which would expand the Mt. Sneffels Wilderness.

Jim thanked the many volunteers among which were Jan, Emily, Scott, Rein, Dave, Judy, Jen, Katie, and Robyn.

Jim also reported that there was a conference call, which included ROCC, Sheep Mountain Alliance, Conservation Colorado, and the Wilderness Society concerning this Act. And all concerned are hopeful that Congressman Tipton will support this Act.

b. Land Use – Don Rogers

There was no Land Use Committee Report since Don was out of town.

c. Energy Committee – Al Lowande

Al reported that the Colorado Air Quality Commission has proposed regulations to control methane and other potentially toxic releases into the air due to oil and gas drilling. WCC and ROCC are supporting these proposed regulations although both organizations would like to see these regulations contain even stricter standards and setbacks from schools and communities.

There will be a public hearing in Denver concerning these proposed regulations probably in February and WCC is looking for volunteers willing to testify at this hearing. If you interested please contact Al.

In general the smaller oil and gas drilling companies, especially the ones drilling on the western slope of Colorado, oppose these regulations in part because the western slope area does not have any air quality nonattainment areas. The three biggest companies drilling in Colorado are in favor of these regulations.

On January 28 ROCC will present the Ridgway Town Council with a letter supporting the enactment of these regulations, which ROCC is hoping that the town council will sign. ROCC members are also being encouraged to write individual letters of support. ROCC or WCC will supply talking points for these support letters.

d. WCC – Rein VanWest

Rein reported that the WCC staff just concluded a very successful two-day retreat.

On February 1 the Board of Directors of WCC will discuss and possibly approve WCC's 2014 Operating Plan. This plan contains detailed goals and objectives for the various community organizers who work for WCC.

Rein mentioned that WCC has a Public Lands standing committee and various issue committees including Uranium, Local Food, and Oil and Gas. Rein also reminded everyone that WCC is a regional grassroots democratically run organization that supports and works for social and economic justice. Rein also stated that WCC is looking for volunteers for its various committees. So if you wish to volunteer to work on a committee please contact Rein.

e. Membership – Jan VanWest

Jan reported that ROCC has approximately 250 members, and that during August, September and October 2013 ROCC gained 16 new members. Most new members have become members because of personal contacts made with them by existing members. Each member at this meeting should try to contact a person who they think might be a potential member.

WORC has offered WCC a new challenge membership grant for 2014. If WCC can increase its total membership by 25 or more new memberships by December 1, 2014, than the number it had on November 30, 2013, then it receives \$7500 in general support money. Because this challenge involves all community groups and unaffiliated members, ROCC with its 2013 success, should be

able to meet a goal of 5 or more net memberships by the deadline.

5. Old Business

a. Spaghetti Dinner – February 8, 6:00 at the Ouray Community Center – Jen Parker

There will be ROCC brochures at every table and any brochures not picked up by attendees should be returned to Roze. Volunteers are still needed to bring spaghetti sauce and desserts, especially desserts. The award nominations committee is meeting next Monday to determine who will be presented with an award at the dinner.

The speaker for the dinner has changed and will be Joe Ramey who is a national weather forecaster and climatologist who works in Grand Junction. And his wife, who is also coming to the dinner, is also a weather forecaster.

There was some discussion of ROCC needing to set up a Uranium Committee. And it was mentioned that Russell Evans from the Transition Lab in Montrose gave a uranium talk at which a movie about uranium mining was shown.

6. New Business

a. Report on membership phone calls – Jen Parker

Jen reported that the "Calling Birds" group divided up the ROCC membership list and each group member called about a dozen members to thank them for being members and to ask them a series of questions, which included their opinion on how ROCC was doing as an organization. They were also personally invited them to the Spaghetti Dinner.

In general all the "Calling Birds" reported that ROCC got high marks from the members they talked to and that they got some good feedback on what ROCC could be doing in the future. Most of the members who were called stated that their level of involvement with ROCC just fine as it was.

b. Report on possible editing of ROCC's By-laws (not a vote) – Scott Williams

The By-laws Committee meet and decided to amend some sections of the By-laws that members might find confusing because of the bottom-up decision making process that ROCC employs. Scott and Eve volunteered to make the draft changes. They will then present the changes to the committee for discussion and approval. Then the By-law changes will be presented to the membership at the ROCC Business Meeting in March.

c. There was some discussion of whether or not a short business meeting was needed before the ROCC Talk meetings. The consensus of the members was that this was not necessary unless some unusual or urgent issue arose.