

MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
RIDGWAY OURAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kate Kellogg, Co-President
Vicki Warner-Huggins, Co-President
Don Swartz
Austin Ray
Rein van West
Al Lowande
Linda Browning, Secretary

Also Present: Roze Evans
Jan van West

Vicki Warner-Huggins outlined decisions for the Board to make at this time:

- 1) The need to locate a venue for future board meetings
- 2) Whether to have a spaghetti dinner in 2022
- 3) Where to hold annual meeting for 2021
- 4) Whether to continue sponsoring annual parking lot sale.

Several locations in Ridgway and Ouray were submitted for future board meetings. It was suggested that meeting locations be alternated between the two towns. A final decision on locations will not be made until more information available on COVID restrictions. Several members volunteered to check availability of the locations presented.

Given COVID restrictions, the Board voted to not schedule a spaghetti dinner during the winter months of 2022 but to look for outdoor venues that could be used during the spring or early summer of 2022. If an outdoor event is scheduled the menu could be changed to accommodate the lack of kitchen facilities.

The ROCC annual meeting will be held in December, 2021. It was decided to hold the meeting via ZOOM given ongoing COVID concerns.

Following a discussion by the members, it was decided that ROCC would no longer sponsor the annual Parking Lot Sale. It is hoped that other organizations would step in to sponsor this event.

At the 2020 annual meeting, it was decided to stagger the board and officer positions into one and two year terms. Thus, a number of positions need to be filled for 2022. Rein Van West, Roze Evans and Al Lowande volunteered to form a nominating committee in order to search for candidates for the one year positions.

Additional members and visitors joined the meeting at 6 p.m. Those in attendance were:

Val Szwarc
Tom and Kathy Heffernan
Carolyn Dressler
Don Batchelder
Wendy Fenner
Carolyn Ray

A hike to Ohio Peak at 9 a.m. on Sunday was announced. This hike is being led/organized by WCA and ROCC jointly.

Kathy Heffernan announced the dates for the Fall Road clean up and asked for volunteers. Given the number of conflicts for members to select one date, it was decided to perform the clean up on 4 different dates with 4 different teams. Teams are asked to coordinate with Kathy for location, vests and safety instructions.

Wendy Fenner and Don Batchelder were present to give a presentation on the upcoming vote on the 4A and 4B initiatives and to ask for support from ROCC. The current state of Colorado method for funding schools has resulted in a decrease in funding for Ridgway schools. Both of these ballot issues would increase funding to the school district.

Following a question and answer session, Rein van West made a motion for ROCC to support ballot issues 4A and 4B in the upcoming election on November 2, 2021.

Upon a second by Roze Evans and vote by the membership, the motion was approved.

Carolyn Dressler asked whether ROCC would support the ballot initiative for public health funding for Ouray County. A motion was made by Roze Evans to support this ballot initiative. A discussion was held and it was determined that there was not sufficient information for ROCC to vote on the motion and it was withdrawn.

Val Szwarc advised the membership that the Ridgway Public Library was not in compliance with the Dark Sky Regulations passed by the town of Ridgway. Discussions have been held with the library staff and a grant request will be submitted to the ROCC Grants Committee to provide funding to replace the non-compliant lights.

Kate Kellogg gave an update on Save the Blues activities this past summer. Erica Tucker with the San Juan Mountain Association and the National Forest liaison, reported the following numbers to Kate:

35 Trailhead Volunteers
638 Backpackers contacted
3111 Day Hikers contacted

These results were accomplished even though 1/3 or more of the days were not manned by volunteers.

Upon a motion by Roze Evans with a second by Tom Heffernan, the minutes of the ROCC meeting held May 20, 2021 were approved as presented.

The meeting was adjourned.