

**SPIA FALL MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 3,
2016**

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. by President, Caitlyn Bryan. The Board, and then the Members, introduced themselves.

Board Members in attendance:

Caitlyn Bryan	President
Bob Adams	Vice President
Kathi Hartman	Treasurer
Janice Holcomb	Secretary
Mark Niksic	At Large
Lynnette Boyer	At Large

Patrick Dreiling, At Large Member, was absent because he's getting married today.

Congratulations, Patrick!!

Announcements

1) Caitlyn gave an update on replacement of the culvert on Elk Creek Rd, below the Bucksnot. Cory Day, Jeffco Road & Bridge, said there is no firm date for the project but they plan to have it completed before winter. South Elk Creek Rd will be closed completely during the work from the Bucksnot to just above the "Icehouse". Signs noting the closure are to be placed at Pine Junction & on Elk Creek Rd, across from Sunset Trail, at least one week before work begins. Cory Day also promised to contact Caitlyn when he knows the exact dates and she or Janice will send out an email alert to all our Members.

2) Re the proposed Catholic Retreat Center at Shaffer's Crossing: the second and final public hearing on the rezoning for the project will be Sept. 7th in Golden. If you are interested in giving input on any aspect of the proposal, this meeting is the best time and place. An email was sent to all Members on August 6th with information, Jeffco contacts and some local input.

3) Tony and Rosa Santopietro reported that their cabin had been broken into last June. The kitchen door had been jimmed and was wide open when they arrived. Nothing was taken or damaged as far as they could tell.

Chris Travis reported that Shirley Short's cabin, across from them, was also broken into earlier in the summer. Some items were taken and some windows broken. Chris said they contacted Shirley's grandson, Kyle, to let him know.

We've been very lucky these past years so these reports are disturbing. Caitlyn asked Members to let her know about any future incidents.

4) Jack Nunemaker & Earle Boyer talked about the possibility of an excellent new hi-speed internet service for some SP residents. Neteo is a line of sight system so requires placement of relay receivers on homes in Pine and SP. Jack will be working on this going forward.

5) Charlie Ludeman reported on his problems with homeowner's insurance on their cabin. Insurance companies consider our area "high risk" and look for any way possible to justify cancelling your policy. Elk Creek Fire Station is our designated station, even though North Fork is closer. It was also mentioned that a previous inter-agency agreement that would put North Fork in the loop for our emergencies is no longer being honored.

Charlie worked with an inspector from Elk Creek Fire Dept. who went over their property with them, made reasonable mitigation recommendations, re-inspected the property and issued them a Certificate which they could then use with insurance companies to overcome objections and secure coverage. Charlie went with Farmers (Evergreen office) but another Member had recently been cancelled by Farmers after many years. Jerry Tindal said he had such a difficult time getting coverage on his cabin that he had to go with Lloyds of London.

Bottom line:

Do the fire mitigation inspection and get your "gold star" Certificate.

Appoint a Board Member to be the Sphinx Park representative and our contact with Elk Creek Fire Department.

Reports

1) Treasurer's Report: Kathi gave an update on checking account and CD balances. Per the by-laws, a full balance sheet & income/expense report is prepared annually and presented at the Annual Meeting each May.

2) Water System: Rick Rome reported that the water supply was very good this year. Water will be turned off for the season next weekend, though Rick said he would consider a request from Scott Baker to keep it on until the 14th, weather permitting.

3) Dumpster & Aluminum Can Recycling: Kier Cline, aka "Dumpster Dude", reported a smooth summer with no big problems and said the new aluminum can recycling program is going well. Kier also talked about hazardous waste disposal, specifically paint & stain, which has occasionally been left in or near our dumpster. The trash company cannot take these materials! Kier gave us some great – and acceptable – ways to handle paint & stain:

- * if not large amounts, pour paint or stain onto cardboard & let dry; then put in dumpster

- * for latex paint, pour kitty litter into the can, stir well, let set up, then put in dumpster without the lid

- * for larger quantities, or other hazardous substances, there is a special disposal site in Golden

It was mentioned that our trash company will drop off/pick up a large dumpster for slash removal for \$80.

We will probably go down to one dumpster for the winter (as usual) as of October 1st.

4) Roads: Caitlyn reported that all our roads took a big hit from the July 19th deluge. Mike Livingston & Earle Boyer were out quickly working hard on Old Stagecoach to get it drivable again.

On the other side of the canyon, lower Schuyler Gulch, Navy Hill & Johnson Drive were all in bad shape. Full loads (15T each) of 1½" rock and roadbase were delivered & Earle was hired to move the material into place, filling the deep holes and trenches. Following Earle was a hard-working rake & shovel crew (Rosie Kelley, Daniel Dixon, Kris Dumond, Rich Stuart, Tom Korsmeyer, Terry Curl,

Barry & Caitlyn Bryan) who smoothed out the roadway and re-worked run-off channels. The materials/labor cost \$1147.55 but a very generous \$500 donation from Cynda Arsenault reduced SPIA's cost to \$647.55. Thank you, Cynda!

We still have rock and roadbase remaining which is to be used on any of the Sphinx Park roads going forward. Please let Caitlyn know if you have a large project that will take a lot of material. Note that the rock & roadbase are for our roads only; please don't use them for individual driveway repair.

SPIA did not work on Navy Hill above the Dreiling/Sanborn driveways due to the severity of the damage. Keith Newlon, at his own expense, hired someone to repair that section up to the Mills' cabin.

As of the Meeting date the roads were in generally decent shape with the exception of trenches dug by the rain below Schlageter's, across from their retaining wall, and lower Navy Hill on the inside of the existing culvert between Dumond's & Willers's driveways. POST MEETING NOTE: As of this writing, thanks to Gary Schlageter & Mark McGowan, much of the work on the Navy Hill trench has been completed.

Thank You, again, to all the Members who volunteered their time, energy, equipment & money to keep our community in working order this year!

Bob Crayne asked about putting down recycled asphalt or some other material on the road in front of their cabin at the bottom of Old Stagecoach Road to cut down on the dust. Several people offered advice but no feasible idea was found.

Ron Johnson was worried about SPIA's "road repair plan" in the event of a major storm like the one in July. We have never had a "formal" system but Ron was told that Mike & Earle were generally around and that he could contact Caitlyn or any of the other Board Members to see what was being done. Essentially, if you have property in Sphinx Park, a stout shovel and 4-wheel drive are your best defense against being stranded.

Old Business

June 5th Volunteer Work Day

As noted in a Post Script to the Spring Meeting minutes, Caitlyn recapped the success of the June 5th work day which included

significant work on the summer water system, slash and tamarisk removal from upper Schuyler Gulch, clean-up around the water shed and shovel work on the roads in that area. Thank You to Mark & Sharon Niksic (& their truck), Russell Hall, Terry Curl, Tom Korsmeyer, Dave & Kris Dumond, Rich Stuart & Karen Ray, Barry Bryan, Rick Rome, Gary Schlageter and Mark McGowan!

Tussock Moth Infestation

After the heavy damage to fir & spruce trees in 2015, many Sphinx Park property owners chose to spray their prime trees this summer to kill Tussock Moth larvae. Spraying was done by Timberline Spraying & Mitigation on June 22nd. Roger Bailiff worked long hours with the spray crew helping them locate individual properties – Thanks, Roger! He reported that the operation went smoothly and that both the underside of the branches and the trunks of trees were sprayed which will help fight the Douglas Fir Beetle & the Western Spruce Budworm, as well as the Tussock Moth. It was asked if spraying was likely to be recommended again next year. Caitlyn replied probably not but Terry Curl reminded us that many of our trees are already stressed and more susceptible to other predators, so some spraying and/or use of pheromone packets could be called for next spring/summer. Caitlyn said she would give Members a report in the spring.

Sand-barrels & Stands Project

This project, which will put barrels of decomposed granite with shovels at two places on Old Stagecoach Rd & one on lower Schuyler Gulch Rd to help on the ice in winter, was approved at the spring meeting but no volunteers stepped forward. After a new plea for help, Mark McGowan said he would pick up the barrels & lids; Caitlyn will email him the info. Rosie volunteered Daniel to build the stands & Caitlyn volunteered Barry to help him. Kier agreed to oversee the placement on Old Stagecoach. Carol Miller said she would help however needed, so Caitlyn will ask her to fill the barrels with decomposed from the road bank. Bob will supply the shovels. Our roads will be a little safer this winter, thanks to all of you!

Semi-Annual Sphinx Park Road Clean-Up

Bob Adams organized our twice-yearly effort to help keep Sphinx Park clean & beautiful!

Caitlyn thanked Galena Bye for once again letting us use the Bucksnot for our meeting and reminded everyone to please support “The ‘Snort”.

The main Meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.; 48 people attended.

New Business

Historical Photos of Sphinx Park & the Local Area

Bob Adams brought his wonderful collection of archival photos for everyone to peruse and enjoy. It was fun for both old and new Members and a celebration of our very special community, both past and present. We’re all grateful to Bob for sharing his treasures!