

Draft Minutes for November 13, 2025, Annual Caucus Meeting

Meeting was called to order by John Emerick at 7:05 PM

A quorum was present between attendees and Zoom.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the draft minutes of the September 11 Regular Caucus Meeting. A discussion ensued regarding the term “marketing” to attract more members to attend caucus meetings. It was decided to replace the term “marketing” with “outreach”. The minutes were approved unanimously as revised.

Treasurer’s Report

Bob Dupre reported a balance of \$1685.71 after receiving an annual stipend of \$600 from the county and paying the church a donation for the use of their facilities. There was an inquiry about the possibility of increasing the stipend to provide additional funds for public outreach. The response was that there is an additional \$1500 available, but that would require a proposal from the caucus.

Announcements and Member Comments

It was mentioned that there will apparently be a new development near Marble in Gunnison County. John suggested that the Board consider adding this topic to a future caucus meeting agenda and invite someone from the Gunnison County Planning and Zoning Commission to discuss it.

Election of Board Members

The November regular meeting is considered to be the “Annual” meeting, when bylaws changes are adopted and board members are elected. No bylaws changes have been proposed for this year. Several people have been nominated to fill present or soon to be vacant board positions. Bill Argeros is up for re-election as Vice Chair, and Bob Dupre, Edie Engstrom, and Pat Fagan are running for their board positions again. In addition, Lisa Mattingly and Matt Shmigelsky are running to replace April Brooks and Jaymeson Leo, who left the board last year. A motion to approve the nominations was made and seconded, and the nominations were unanimously approved.

Discussion Topics

Jeff Bier provided an update on the acquisition of Durett Cottage for the Redstone Historical Society, including support from the community and the donation by the owners of the house.

There was a discussion of recommendations from the Snowmass/Capitol Creek Caucus to limit house size and prevent certain types of development. Also discussed were changes to Pitkin County's Comprehensive Plan that reduces the maximum house size in certain areas.

Larissa Lalond provided an update on the Dark Skies Initiative, including the new lighting code and the project to replace street lights with dark sky-friendly fixtures in Redstone.

Gary Tennenbaum provided an update on the Redstone and McClure Pass Trail project, including the decision to construct the trail from the bottom of Highway 133 over the old McClure Pass Trail. An underpass will be constructed at the top of the old trail at Highway 133, and a new trail will be constructed from there to the top of McClure Pass. The project includes conditions to protect bird migration and nesting. The project will also connect the trail with subdivisions south of Redstone. The entire project is expected to be completed next year.

Comments on the trail project included concerns about the impact of the trail on breeding birds and wildlife, citing the settlement agreement with Roaring Fork Audubon, and the negative impact of increased use on wildlife and the need for more extensive closures to protect birds during their sensitive breeding season. The response was that the closure dates were determined by CPW and the Forest Service, and the closure will be enforced by rangers. Opening the trail later in the year to accommodate wildlife was suggested, but Tennenbaum explained the current closure dates are based on "scientific recommendations".

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.