



## **COLORADO TREE COALITION**

Minutes of the January 25, 2008 Meeting  
Volunteers for Outdoors Colorado, Denver

### I. Meeting Called to Order and Introductions

- President Tom Wells called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.
- Members in attendance were Tom Wells, Michael Swanson, Karen Scopel, Kristin Drye, Mike McGill, Neal Bamesberger, Becky Wegner, Gertie Grant, Shelly VanLandingham, David Flaig, Ralph Campbell

- Time Distribution Reports

Ralph Campbell asked for any time reports that were not previously submitted.

### III. Approval of Minutes

- **MOTION:** A motion was made to approve the minutes of the last meeting (Bamesberger, McGill). **MOTION PASSED.**

### IV. New Business

#### A. Regional Air Quality – Karen Scopel

- Karen presented information from regional discussions about ozone management and the relationship to trees. She noted that the Denver metro/north Front Range region is out of compliance with federal air quality standards as they relate to ozone and there are on-going regional discussions about ways to bring the air quality back into compliance. Among issues being discussed is the possibility of planting more trees and possibly regulating the types of trees to avoid those that give off high amounts of volatile organic compounds. There was group discussion on how this might be of benefit to CTC and the Trees Across Colorado program. Karen will keep the group posted on the discussions. People interested in following the entire ozone issue can go to [www.ozoneaware.org](http://www.ozoneaware.org).

#### B. Holly Request for disaster funds – Ralph Campbell/Shelly VanLandingham

- Ralph and Shelly presented information on the situation in Holly following the tornado last year and the request for money from the Reforest Colorado fund to replace trees. DOLA is doing a plan to renovate Gateway Park. They are looking at doing the project in two phases - the south section in spring 08 and the larger north section in late 08 into 09. Ralph suggested that the funding need for the spring 08 project be considered and then the request could be revisited when they are ready to do the next phase. Shelly thought that about \$1500 to \$2000 would take care of this spring's project.
- Becky thought this would be a good opportunity to promote the Reforest Colorado program on the web page.

- **MOTION:** A motion was made to fund the Holly project up to \$2000 for the spring project and that CTC revisit the project prior to this fall for additional funding (Campbell, McGill). Gertie asked if there were any street trees/areas for street trees. Shelly explained that several donations have been received that they are using for match for this project and other tree planting projects. Gertie asked if there would be a place for a TAC project next year. **MOTION PASSED.**

#### C. 2008 Meeting Dates – Tom Wells

- Tom Wells suggested that CTC continue to meet in January following Pro-Green and set a date for a fall meeting. The January meeting would be to adopt the budget and the fall meeting would be the annual meeting. It has been hard the past couple of years to get enough people for the spring and summer meetings.
- There was a suggestion to make the meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of September which would be Sept 27<sup>th</sup> this year.
- **MOTION:** To hold the annual meeting in Salida on September 27, 2008, (Swanson, Wegner). **MOTION PASSED.**

#### D. Update Strategic Plan – Neal Bamesberger /Ralph Campbell

- Ralph reported that we have not done a very good job of following our strategic plan, especially the timeline. He suggested that a group meet to change the dates to reflect current status.
- Ralph, Tom and Neal will meet to come up with a revision and get with the committees for input and will send out the revised plan to the board.

### IV. Old Business

#### A. Compilation of Tree of the Month Articles – Ralph for Vince Urbina

- Ralph reminded the board of the discussion at the last meeting on this topic and that the decision was tabled until this meeting. The board discussed the pros and cons of the proposal. Several folks feel that there isn't a market for the product. Others felt there is some potential but the details need to be worked out before funds are committed. Some feel that there isn't enough consistency and/or information in the articles. Mike S. suggested that it would be best to take the idea to a publisher.
- **MOTION:** To put \$800 in the budget for the design if needed and then Vince and Mike seek a publisher (Campbell, Bamesberger). **MOTION PASSED.** Ralph will talk to Vince.

#### B. Proposed By-Law Changes – Michael Swanson

- Mike has not had time to work on these yet but thought he would have time in the next couple of weeks.
- Ralph noted that they need to be presented at a board meeting and suggested that Mike get them done and he will send them to the board and put them on the September agenda.

#### C. Web Page and e-commerce – Kamie Long

- Ralph reported that Kamie has updated a number of the pages and added the 2007

Report to the State Forester.

- Ralph noted that we paid Pragmatic \$325/month which includes a number of items. CTC has paid them through March.
- Kamie's suggestion is we look into other hosting companies as she feels that we are being over-charged for the services we get. She asked for help in locating other possible companies and getting the bids.
- Tom noted that he knows of a company and suggested that we get two additional bids. Mike McGill will talk to a couple of folks he knows. Karen recalled there are sites that work specifically with non-profits. Mike and Tom M will pursue options.
- **MOTION:** To get additional bids that will be sent to the executive board and Kamie and Kristen (to be sure changes work with the e-commerce site) and have a decision by early March (Campbell, Swanson). **MOTION PASSED.**

D. 2007 Report to the State Forester – Michael Swanson

- Mike reported that the report has been finished and distributed. Copies were also distributed at Pro-Green.
- Mike was commended on the good job of putting the report together.

V. Budget Items

A. Acceptance of Treasurer Report – Becky Wegner

- Becky distributed and discussed the 2007 end of year report. Most revenue came in at or above the adopted budget. Expenditures also came in at or below budget except for communications which was up due to some web expenses and TAC which was also above revenue.
- Mike S asked if we had made any transfers to CFDF or the Tree Trust. Mike found that the approved budget did include \$2000 for the Tree Trust and \$1000 for CFDF. Becky will make those transfers.
- **MOTION:** To accept the treasurer's report with the changes for the transfers (Swanson, Campbell). **MOTION PASSED.**

B. 2008 Budget - Becky Wegner

- Becky distributed and discussed the proposed 2008 budget. \$5,297 was added as an expense for encumbered funds (received in 2005 or 2006) for the Trees, People and Towns conference that was supposed to be held in 2007. The conference was cancelled and the funds will have to be returned to the appropriate agencies.
- The board reviewed the proposed budget and several adjustments were made bringing the budget to \$124,620 income and \$124,797 expenses.
- **MOTION:** To accept the 2008 budget as amended (Swanson, Grant). **MOTION PASSED.**

VI. Strategic Planning Committees

A. Board Development – Scott Grimes/Michael Swanson

- Mike S asked if there would be elections this year. Yes, at the annual meeting.

B. Marketing and Outreach – Ralph Campbell

- Ralph reported, “We are making progress”. CPR, mortuary, metro-million, and other programs are now committed to the Reforest Colorado program. We need to get both the Reforest Colorado and Trees Across Colorado registered with the Secretary of State.

C. Program Development – Tom Wells

- Tom needs help with program development now that he is president. Mike McGill offered to step into this role.

VII. Program Reports

A. Grants – David Flaig

- David distributed information about the grants. There were 32 applications. There are 2 projects below the line that seem to have a lot of merit (one low ranking) that David would like to see funded. The board decided to wait to see what Plant-It 2020 is willing to fund (7 projects being forwarded to them) and the 4 projects that are proposed for CTC funding and then entertain the possibility of funding the extra 2.

B. Champion Tree – Neal Bamesberger

- Neal reported that there were more nominations this year than ever before. There were 105 nominations submitted compared to 15 to 20 in prior years. The 2008 master list should be distributed soon.

C. Notable Tree Calendar – Becky Wegner

- Becky reported that work has begun on the 2009 calendar. It looks like we’re losing a couple of sponsors so we’ll need to find some new sponsors. Dave will check to see why ISA is thinking of not sponsoring a page this year.

D. Membership – Phil Hoefler

- No report.

E. Awards – Wendy Ball/Phil Hoefler

- No report.

F. Trees Across Colorado – Gertie Grant

- Gertie feels that TAC should start offering training classes for citizens that are getting trees either through the TAC program or the Million Trees initiative. Others noted that a lot of communities provide these programs so we need to be careful to not step on these programs.
- This year’s TAC communities are Arvada, Boulder, Brighton, Broomfield (HOA), Colorado Springs (City), Co Springs (HOA), Elbert County, Golden, Greeley, Littleton, Longmont, Mead, Northglenn (City), Northglenn (HOA), South Suburban, Westminster, Windsor.
- There was a question about whether or not sales tax needs to be charged on these sales. Becky will check into this.
- Unloading is April 15<sup>th</sup>. Gertie needs assistance to supervise how trees are being

loaded onto trucks going out to assure that the roots are properly protected. Tree costs will probably go up next year about \$2/tree.

#### VIII. Chapter Reports

- FRUFC – doing some programs on carbon sequestration.

#### IX. Other Business

#### X. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 2:15.