



**Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee
Unapproved December Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 7, 2021
9:00 AM
Council Chambers - Eagle Town Hall
200 Broadway
Eagle, CO 81631**

*This agenda and the meetings can be viewed at www.Townofeagle.org.
*The public is invited to comment at the end of each agenda item**

MEETING ACCESS PUBLIC WIFI - TOEG – townofeagle2019

This was an in-person meeting, although participants could still log in via zoom.

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83472864496> Meeting ID: 834 7286 4496

9:00am CALL TO ORDER

Call to order at: 9:02am

Absent: None

9:05am APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES

Motion to approve the November OSRAC meeting minutes by Owens second by Bailey.

Motion passes unanimously.

9:10am DISCUSSION

9:10am (30 min) Wildlife Trail Ambassador TOE update

- Typically, the VVMTA's Wildlife Trail Ambassador program has focused its efforts on closed trails to educate would-be users of trails with wildlife closures.
- For the 2021-22 winter season, volunteers with VVMTA's Wildlife Trail Ambassador program will be more active at the open loops on the Haymaker Trail in Eagle.
 - o The goal is to provide information about recreating during the winter and steps to minimize our impacts on wintering wildlife.
- To assist the VVMTA volunteers, Town staff will post new signage at the Haymaker Trailhead that highlights rules to help minimize disturbance to wintering wildlife.
 - o Signage will include Town leash laws.
 - Similar to Eagle County Open Space, Town staff will purchase leashes that can be borrowed at the trailhead.
- Town staff and the VVMTA will increase the number of trail counters and trail cameras on the open and closed portion of the trail to illustrate a better picture of use during the winter.

- Staff will consult with CPW regarding language to include on the new signage.
- Staff and the VVMTA will provide regular updates to the Committee on the winter use of the Haymaker trail.

9:40am (20 min) Noxious weed management and Advisory Board

- On the recommendation of the Committee, Staff will propose to Council that the OSRAC be nominated as the Noxious Weed Advisory Board for the Town of Eagle.
- Staff will create a new RFP for the 2022 season for the treatment of noxious weeds on open space lands.
 - o The new program will place a greater emphasis on mapping and inventorying noxious weeds in addition to treatment.
- Staff will start drafting a Noxious Weed Management Plan for the Town of Eagle.
- Staff will continue to expand the Town's noxious weed program by securing grants, working with local partners, and supporting the program during the budgeting process.
- The OSTMP will include information to help this process.

Motion to recommend to Council that OSRAC be nominated as the Noxious Weed Advisory Board for the Town of Eagle and to develop a Noxious Weed Management Plan by Hoban second by Owens. Motion passes unanimously.

10:00am (15 min) Wildlife Committee funding request

- OSRAC did not make any recommendations to Council for funding contributions to the Community Wildlife Roundtable.
- The Committee recommended that the Wildlife Roundtable first update Council on recent actions and developments before requesting any funding.
- An ideal time to request funding from the Town would be during the Town's Community Grants cycle in the fall.
- Staff will work with the Community Wildlife Roundtable to schedule an update to Council.

10:15am (10 min) Open Space and Trails Master Plan update

- Staff informed the Committee that the last round of stakeholder focus groups for the OSTMP would occur later that week.
- All Committee members were invited and encouraged to attend.
- The final community open house will occur in late January or early February.
- The updated timeline is for the plan to be completed by the end of March 2022.

10:25am (5 min) Future Agenda items/ New Business

- Camping
- Hardscrabble Road Seasonal Closure conversation

Motion to ADJOURN at 10:47 by Bailey second by Ernest Saeger. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting Packet:

Haymeadow Acquisition Project:

In early December, the Conservation Fund announced that they are under contract to acquire 200 acres on the eastern side of the Haymeadow PUD for conservation. After the acquisition, the Conservation Fund intends to convey the 200 acres to Eagle County Open Space. The project is still in the early stages, and the details will continue to be worked out. For additional background information on this project, briefly check out [Eagle County's OSAC meeting from December 13th](#). Peter Suneson with Eagle County Open Space will present additional information to the Committee about the project.

The chart below illustrates previous contributions from the Town of Eagle for major open space acquisition projects in the past 20 years.

TOE Open Space Acquisitions						
Date	Town Contribution	Property	Owner	Total Acquisition Cost	Town Contribution	Acres
2006	\$64,620.33	Spud Cellar	Town of Eagle	\$64,620.33	100.00%	35
5/25/2011	\$160,000.00	Confluence	Eagle County	\$1,600,000.00	10.00%	7.3
7/31/2012	\$150,875.00	Swallow Oil Property	Town of Eagle	\$150,875.00	100.00%	0.367
5/25/2016	\$149,000.00	A&R purchase (Abrams)	Town of Eagle	\$737,504.00	20.20%	172
7/26/2017	\$600,000.00	Hardscrabble Mountain Ranch (BCVROS)	Eagle County	\$15,502,868.00	3.87%	1,540
7/28/2020	\$10,000.00	Ridgway Acquisition (BCVROS)	Eagle County	\$2,225,000.00	0.45%	131.3
Pending Projects						
2022		Haymeadow Open Space	Eagle County	\$3,701,000		200
*Fair Market Value = \$7,910,000						

Winter Recreation Update

Staff posted new signs displaying winter recreation rules at the Haymaker Trailhead. In addition, leashes are now available to borrow at the trailhead. Further, new trail counters and trail cameras have been mounted to better determine recreation use and monitor wildlife in the area. Ernest and Erinn will provide an update from VVMTA's Trail Ambassador Program during the meeting.

The Arroyo trailhead parking lot was closed by TOE Public Works staff (Thank You!) on December 20. It will remain closed throughout the seasonal trail closure period. However, the restrooms will remain open.

All seasonal closure gates have been closed and signage posted at TOE trailheads and open space access points. In addition, outreach about the annual seasonal closures has been shared on the Town website, Facebook, Eagle Today, and user group websites.

BLM West Eagle Closures

The BLM has informed the Town that there has been some confusion regarding seasonal closure dates in the West Eagle area. Only Spring Creek and McHatten Roads were intended to have reduced seasonal closure dates into January. All other trails, roads, and lands were supposed to adhere to the BLM's Filed

Office closure of Dec 1 – April 15. As TOE trails are involved in this trail network, the Town will need to work with the BLM to establish a consistent date for seasonal closures. Discussions are ongoing.

Open Space and Trails Master Plan Update

The consultants working on the OSTMP are analyzing and compiling the data collected into a draft master plan. Before the draft is formatted, committee members and stakeholders will have an opportunity to view and provide comments. After, a community open house will be scheduled for late January or early February. The greater community will be invited to ask questions and provide comments. Subsequently, the draft will be shared with OSRAC and Town Council for comments during the first week of March. The final draft should be ready by the end of March 2022.

Community Survey Results

The results of the [Town's Community Survey](#) are listed on the website. With the finalization of the OSTMP, the Committee will examine the survey results as they relate to open space, trails, and recreation in the Town. Conversations will be ongoing.