



**TOPS Working Committee Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 4, 2020**

**Members Present:** Joe Lavorini, Blaze Panariso, Bob Falcone, Paula Krantz, Lily Weissgold, Nancy Hobbs, Ingrid Richter, Bob Shafer

**Members Absent:** Lee Milner

**Alternates Absent:** Scott Lewandowski

**Parks Board Liaisons Present:** Carol Beckman

**Parks Board Liaisons Absent:** Greg Thornton, Jason Rupinski

**Staff Present:** Britt Haley, Kurt Schroeder, Karen Palus, Anna White, David Deitemeyer

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TOPS Working Committee Chair Joe Lavorini brought the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m.

**Agenda Preview**

Committee Chair Joe Lavorini announced the agenda for the meeting.

**Announcements**

Karen Palus, Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Director, gave the following announcements:

- She distributed the Year in Review of the Pikes Peak Summit Complex to the Committee
  - She gave an overview of the Mayor's initiative, the different types of fundraising opportunities, and some information about ADA accessibility in the new complex.
- A send off to Joe Lavorini, Committee Chair, as he moves to a new opportunity and is leaving Colorado Springs
  - Britt Haley, TOPS Program Manager, and Karen highlighted a few different accomplishments from Joe's 2014 to 2020 terms on the TOPS Working Committee.
- Announced that there will be an ad place for TOPS Working Committee members to fill one vacancy and add two to three alternates.

Britt Haley, TOPS Program Manager, made the following announcements:

- The March site tour would be the same site as the February tour for members who were unable to attend the February one.
  - There would hopefully be an action item at the April meeting.

**Approval of Minutes** – February 5, 2020

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the February 5, 2020 TOPS Working Committee meeting

minutes.

1<sup>st</sup> – Nancy Hobbs, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Bob Falcone, Approved, Unanimously

### **Citizen Discussion**

There was no citizen discussion at this time.

### **Action Items**

#### **Selection of a Vice-Chair (Committee)**

Britt Haley, TOPS Program Manager, announced that Lily Weissgold had offered to move from the position of Vice-Chair to Chair in light of Joe Lavorini's departure. This now created an opening for the Vice-Chair position for the Committee to select and vote on for the remainder of Joe's term.

Committee member Blaze Panariso nominated Bob Falcone. Nancy Hobbs seconded the nomination. Bob accepted the nomination and said he would enjoy the position in the interim.

#### **Motion: To elect Bob Falcone as Vice-Chair for the remainder of the term.**

1st - Blaze Panariso, 2nd - Nancy Hobbs, Approved, Unanimously

### **Presentations**

#### **TOPS Wayfinding Update (Presented by David Deitemeyer, Senior Landscape Architect)**

David Deitemeyer, Senior Landscape Architect, updated the Board on the Open Space Wayfinding Design Guidelines. This presentation gave an overview of current open space wayfinding signage; project goals; preferred design from the public process; a thorough description of the design for each type of sign that would be implemented in the park; a closer look at the maps and information panels on the signs; and lastly, a look at what the wayfinding signs would look like.

[Link to PowerPoint presentation here](#)

#### **ABOS Master and Management Plan Update (Presented by David Deitemeyer, Senior Landscape Architect)**

David Deitemeyer, Senior Landscape Architect presented an overview of the updated Austin Bluffs Open Space Master and Management Plan. The overview covered the open space's need for a master plan; the project team; the planning process; an overview of the open space which included a map of the area; project goals and givens; feedback on what citizens like about the open space; issues and concerns that had been identified; master plan recommendations to different facets of the open space; and finally, the current funding for the project.

[Link to PowerPoint presentation here](#)

### **Citizen Discussion**

Susan Davies, Executive Director at the Trails and Open Space Coalition (TOSC), announced that TOSC would continue to monitor the upcoming vote for renewal of the TOPS Tax. She said they were looking at potentially April 2021. She added that TOSC wanted to continue community discussion, and TOSC would be having a white paper backgrounder with a synopsis of TOPS, the history, and the master plan.

Britt Haley, TOPS Program Manager, made an additional announcement to invite the TOPS Working Committee to Bluestem Open Space for the ribbon cutting of the new trail.

### **Motion to adjourn**

1<sup>st</sup> – Blaze Panariso, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Nancy Hobbs, Approved, Unanimously