



**CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Regular Meeting Minutes
Remote Meeting via Zoom
July 27, 2026

A. CALL TO ORDER & ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEMBER OPENINGS

Chair Conley called the Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Chair David Conley
Vice Chair Paul Arlinghaus
Committee Member Cassandra Bresnahan
Committee Member Judy Carnick
Committee Member Andrea Sutela
Committee Member Anthony Maltese
Committee Member Robin Kovats
Alternate Committee Member Marion Ceruzzi
Alternate Committee Member Sheryl Cline

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Alternate Committee Member Anthony Lane

1. No openings for regular members or alternates

The Committee is full, therefore there was no discussion about openings.

B. AGENDA REVIEW

Committee Member Kovats moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Carnick. The motion was carried (7-0).

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Draft minutes of OSAC Meeting 06-22-2026 Meeting

Committee Member Bresnahan moved to approve the June 22, 2026 meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Carnick. The motion was carried (6-0). Committee Member Maltese abstained from voting as he was not present for the June 22, 2026 meeting.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Cory Sutela of Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates stated that he had a discussion with Vice Chair Arlinghaus regarding how Medicine Wheel may be able to assist with trail work in Black Canyon Open Space. He mentioned that he appreciated being a part of the work in that open space.

E. REPORTS

1. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PARAB) Update

a. Approved Minutes for PARAB 06-01-2026 Meeting

There was no discussion.

2. Director's Comments

Parks and Recreation Director Gillian Rossi announced that the new fFuels Crew, consisting of three staff members hired by the Manitou Springs Fire Department (MSFD), will begin their first official project tomorrow at an open space parcel on Oak Place, where they will clear and remove deadwood. The Committee discussed ways to keep the community informed about the crew's mitigation work, with suggestions to include updates in the city newsletter and on the fire mitigation webpage on the City's website. The Committee requested regular updates from MSFD so that they can be aware of planned work and respond to citizen questions.

a. BCOS Engineering Update

Director Rossi provided updates on the Black Canyon Open Space (BCOS) Engineering project, including the hiring of Engineering Coordinator Stacey Salvatore.

b. BBOS Environmental Impact Assessment Update

Director Rossi also provided updates on the Bill Bauers Open Space (BBOS) Environmental Impact Assessment, which will have field work completed in the second week of August.

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. Black Canyon Open Space

a. Volunteer Trail Workday Updates (Paul)

The Committee discussed July's volunteer workdays, noting slow turnout due to heat and missed Eventbrite publication, as well as upcoming workdays scheduled for August 3 and 17, 2026.

b. CPW Non-motorized Trails Grant Progress (Gillian, Paul)

Director Rossi and Vice Chair Arlinghaus reviewed plans for a Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) grant application due in October, with Stephanie Surch from Pikes Peak Outdoors potentially providing free review assistance and Medicine Wheel expressing interest in providing quotes for professional trail construction. Arlinghaus presented a proposed trail alignment featuring steep climbs and scenic views, while Rossi mentioned discussing the grant with David Dietemeyer, Senior Landscape Architect from the City of Colorado Springs, who is also applying for the same grant. Rossi anticipates having construction bids for the climbing trail to include in the grant request.

2. Trail Map Updates – Discussion (Andrea, Anthony, Dave)

There was a discussion about updating the trail map. Director Rossi reported a cost estimate of \$2,200 to print 5,000 copies from Minuteman Press. The Committee debated whether to continue printing physical maps or switch to a digital format, with Committee Member Maltese expressing concerns about the cost and suggesting digital might be more appropriate given most users have digital devices. Committee Member Sutela proposed organizing a meeting to discuss what should be included in the new trail map, and Committee Member Bresnahan offered to provide a quote from D11 Printing for comparison.

3. Trailmixers Discussion and Planning (Cassandra)

The Committee discussed plans for launching "Trailmixers", a new trail exploration program. They agreed to start in September with monthly events alternating between Saturday and Sunday at 9:00 AM, beginning with Laguna Point Trailhead and Iron Mountain on September 13, 2026. The consensus was to provide trail mix in individual packets for participants, with Director Rossi handling the purchase through the City account. Vice Chair Bresnahan will prepare a final update for the next meeting in late August.

G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Conley reminded the Committee that the August meeting will include a draft budget for initial review with a full review planned for the September meeting. Also on the agenda will be more work on the trail map revisions and the grant application.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Member Kovats moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Arlinghaus. The motion was carried (7-0).
The meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.

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