



Regular Monthly Meeting
Minutes
July 7, 2010
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order / YVSC Mission

The mission of YVSC is to provide leadership to advance environmental, economic, and social sustainability for current and future generations through education, programs and collaboration among individuals, organizations, businesses and government.

YVSC's goals:

1. Raise awareness of sustainability issues in the Yampa Valley.
2. Support and/or develop projects and tools that enhance sustainability in our community.
3. Encourage collaboration among other entities of like purpose, ensuring that everyone is moving in the same general direction and maximizing efficiency of resources.

II. Introductions

Present: Erica Olson, Paul Potyen, Drew Williams, Angela Ashby, Tim Winter, Jeremy Behling, Diane Mitsch Bush, Kyleigh DeMicco, Marion Ayer, Winn Cowman, Catherine Carson, Sarah Fox, Liz Wahl, Audrey Williams, Craig Schiffer, Meg Bentley, Laura Frolich, Tristan Frolich, Steve Hoots, Susan Holland and Anne Mudgett.

III. Approval of Minutes from June 2, 2010 Monthly Meeting.

Jeremy Behling made a motion to approve the minutes from June 2, 2010. Kyleigh DeMicco seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

IV. Open Forum

A. Young Professionals Network, Marion Ayer

Young Professionals Network is a community development program of the Chamber intended to connect young professionals together but also connect them to the community. The group has four committees: Fresh Air, Professional Development, Events & Networking and Philanthropic. Young Professionals Network

holds monthly events that include time for networking and a program or speaker. Most members are 21-40, but anyone over age of 40 is welcome, too. The group currently has 124 members. For more information go to www.steamboatypn.com.

B. Twin Enviro Compost

Twin Gro compost is made from local organic materials, such as the compostables collected at Zero Waste community events. The product is available at Gecko Landscape & Design, Kinnikinnick Lawn & Garden and South Routt Nursery. The cost is \$20/cu. yard. The compost has been extensively tested and information about the composition of the product is available. For more information, contact David Epstein at 970.879.6985

C. GEO Recharge Colorado, via email from Kate Nowak

Moffat, Rio Blanco and Routt residents are invited to participate in the GEO residential energy audit rebate program. The goal of the program is to save energy and stimulate the economy by creating work for contractors. There are still lots of home energy audit rebates available on

www.rechargecolorado.com. The rebates are on a first come first-served basis and are available for existing homes.

Contractors that perform the energy audits must be BPI (Building Performance Institute) or RESNET (Residential Energy Services Network) accredited building analysts. We have two qualified contractors in our area. Greenleaf Building Performance 970-846-2640 and Mountain Energy Consultants 970-393-2202.

There are generally different service tiers where your energy auditor will perform specific tasks on site. A “walk through” audit in your house will allow the auditor to review a checklist of items to see if any energy efficient improvements can be made. Other tiers provide for a comprehensive audit of your home utilizing special equipment to test your doors, windows, installation, etc. for drafts and air leakage. The energy auditor’s checklist is thorough and you can be assured that the audit’s recommendations will lead to more comfort in your home. So if you are interested in saving on utility bills this winter, get your home energy audit now to determine your best next steps. Please share your home energy audit success stories with Yampa Valley Partners at kate@yampavalleypartners.com

D. CEC Update, via email from Sasha Nelson

Recently, in an unprecedented move, the BLM announced that 77,000 acres of Vermillion Basin, Citizen Proposed Wilderness area, will be withdrawn from mineral leasing when they release their final plan at the end of the month. This represents a first good step towards a more balanced approach to natural resource management in Moffat County.

Moffat County is claiming that this goes against a consensus decision made by cooperating agencies. Moffat County is also trying to claim that this decision will harm the local and regional economy. CEC is responding with grassroots letters to the Editor and Op Eds. We expect to complete this work this week. Then we hope that the news cycle will move to the next issue. We feel we need to move the conversation away from Vermillion, only one part of the final BLM plan, and refocus our efforts and media attention on the large picture--the anticipation of the final plan. This plan will govern how millions of acres of our public lands (including the BLM sections of Emerald Mountain) will be managed for the next 20 or more years.

CEC may ask for individual and collective support once the final plan is released as early as the end of July to tell Moffat County and oil and gas interests that SOME of our public lands should stay public, free from development and available for future generations to enjoy.

If you have questions, please contact Sasha Nelson at sasha@cecenviro.org.

Additional information about Vermillion Basin is available at www.savevermillion.org.

E. Deep Roots, Erica Olson

Deep Roots has a table at Farmers’ Market for Deep Roots members who have surplus produce from their gardens. Alpine Bank has provided a tent and sponsored the booth for first two weeks. The owner of Cacklin’ Hen farm sold out of nearly everything he brought to sell the first week. No amount of produce is too big or too small. If you are interested in selling your produce, you need to reserve space at the booth no later than the Thursday prior to the weekend you'd like sell. Space is limited and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Email info@deeprootsco.org.

The next Deep Root open meeting is the fourth Wed. of month, 7/28, at 12:00-1:00 p.m. at library.

Deep Roots is hosting a Permaculture workshop on 7/19. The cost is \$12/members and \$17 for non-members. For more info, go to <http://deeprootsco.weebly.com/upcoming-events.html>.

F. South Routt commuter van pool, Diane Mitsch Bush

There is currently one van running from Oak Creek. The van still has two spots open, and the program can add vans according to the contract with the vendor. Email Diane at dmitschbush@co.routt.co.us if you are interested in a ride from Oak Creek.

G. Eco-Guide, Kyleigh DeMicco

The Eco-Guide is now more visible on Chamber website on the Live & Work tab: <http://www.steamboat-chamber.com/info/ecoguide.asp>. The Chamber is also printing an in-house rack card with Eco-Guide information. Kyleigh DeMicco passed around a draft of the card for comments.

H. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, Tim Winter

The City and County have scheduled the presentation of the results of the greenhouse gas inventory:

Monday, July 19, 2010

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Centennial Hall, Citizens' Meeting Room

Open to public

Tim Winter explained that this meeting will be a presentation of the results of the 2005 inventory. We will repeat the inventory for 2010, so that we can look at where we were, where we are and where we are going. At the presentation, we will be talking about possible action plan items to reduce GHG emissions. There is lot of impetus to set up action plans right now. GEO is developing a plan for our three-county area and Routt County is also involved in a creating action items more related to the ski industry.

V. Old Business

A. YVSC Sub-Committee Reports

1. Zero Waste

- a. Volunteers: At the first free concert on 6/26/10 (about 2,000 people in attendance) there was only ½ bag of trash at the end of the event. Last year the free concerts they were producing 50 containers of trash per event. Liz Wahl thanked the Concert committee and all the Zero Waste volunteers who made this incredible diversion rate possible.

If your nonprofit group would like to volunteer for a Zero Waste event, such as a free concert, you can recruit your group to work the event and earn \$100 for your nonprofit. Please email zero@yvsc.org if you are interested in this volunteer/fundraising opportunity.

- b. Community Events calendar: With 15 events total, the calendar of big community events is fairly packed for the rest of the summer. If you are interested in making your event Zero Waste for next year, please contact zero@yvsc.org.
- c. Sponsorship: YVSC is seeking sponsors to help expand the program and support infrastructure and outreach for the program. If your business is interested in being on the ground-floor of this exciting, high-profile environmental effort, email anne@yvsc.org.
- d. Smaller/private events: YVSC is working with small private events to be waste-free. If you have a party, meeting or corporate event that you would like to make Zero Waste, contact zero@yvsc.org for more information.

2. Talking Green

a. The June event was on Community Supported Agriculture. It was very well-received with lots of interaction between attendees and producers. The Talking Green committee hopes to do another event on CSAs in February when producers are selling shares. The list of local producers that was shared that night is available online at <http://www.yvsc.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/07/Handout-for-TG-CSAs.pdf>. Deep Roots also has some info on their website. *Dig In* magazine features local producers, too.

b. July Networking/Green Drinks event (No educational program this month)

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Café Sweet Pea

A special drink and appetizer menu will be offered for Talking Green

c. Talking Green Committee

Next meeting:

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

5:00 p.m.

at the library

Anyone interested in helping with this program is welcome to attend.

d. Sponsorship- YVSC is seeking sponsors to help support this program. If your business is interested in investing in this effort to educate and connect the community about environmental issues, email anne@yvsc.org.

3. Green Building/Tours ASES Solar Home Tour: October 2, 2010

The tour will include 10-15 diverse homes, not just solar homes. This year, the tour will be self-guided, so attendees are encouraged to ride bikes or carpool. Homeowners and architects will be in each home to answer questions. More details will be shared as they become available.

ENERGY STAR Course

Monday, July 26, 2010

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Centennial Hall, Citizens' Meeting Room

Free, but seating is limited.

Call 871.8260 or email bkeenan@steamboatsprings.net for more info.

4. Fall Fundraiser: October 1, 2010

The YVSC Fall Fundraiser will include a speaker, silent auction and local, sustainable foods from a variety of vendors. YVSC is seeking donations of silent auction items, trips, etc. We are also recruiting committee members to help plan the event. The next event-planning meeting is still TBA. Please contact anne@yvsc.org if you would like to donate an auction item or serve on the planning committee.

B. Other

1. ReTree Colorado report, Tristan and Laura Frolich

- The event attracted 320 volunteers who planted just under 12,000 trees.
- All the trees that we didn't plant that day will be planted.
- Steamboat Lake has 6,000 new trees. Bridge Island is covered.

- If you want you to go water trees, you'll receive a free pass for the day (can check in at Visitor Center). Or, 48 hours of work will earn you a free pass for the year. (Bring buckets if you go to water trees.)
- If your organization or family wants to adopt a campsite at Steamboat Lake and take care of the trees on it, they'll put your name up at the campsite.
- Volunteers planted 3,400 trees at the Steamboat Ski Area. Staff will be planting 600 more for 4,000 total. These trees are being watered by snowmaking equipment.
- Volunteers planted 1,000 trees at Spring Creek and 600 additional will be planted for 1,600 total.
- No specific numbers were reported for Seedhouse or Hinman.
- Tristan and Laura presented YVSC with a plaque for the organization's assistance with the event and for providing event insurance.

VI. New Business

A. 2010 Programs/Events/Partnerships

None.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 by Angela Ashby.

Next meeting August 4, 2010 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Centennial Hall Rms 113-114