SILVER PLUME MOUNTAIN PARK COMMISSION MEETING
AGENDA
SATURDAY, June 7th, 2025, at 3:00 PM

I. **Call To Order:** Meeting called to order at 3:06pm by Cindy Neely

II. **Roll Call:** Those present include Commission members Ryan Redfield, Mark Morris, Michael Frey, Chelsea Nihiser, and Martin Gitlin. Special Guest Cindy Neely is also in attendance**.**

III. **Public Comment**: N/A

IV. **New Business / Action Items**

a) **Introduction of Mountain Park Commission, Review of Ordinance 351:**
b) **Appointment of Officers: Chairman, Secretary (Minutes Required)**
c) **Does the Commission cover both north and south parts of the Mountain Park:**
d) **What are the legal requirements on the property?**
   - **Conservation Easement-North Side: Colorado Historical Foundation**
   - **BLM Patent Regulations-South Side: HDPLC**
e) **Planning Alreading Accomplished:**
   - **North Side: Master Plan and Trail Plan**
   - **South Side: HDPLC Trail Plan**
f) **Goals**
g) **Duties/Responsibilities**
h) **Monitoring: What for, what schedule**
i) **Cameras: Number/Placement**
j) **Reporting**
   - **Contact list: CHF, HDPLC, USFS, DRMS, CPW, Sheriff, Board of Trustees**
k) **Planning**
l) **Special areas**

Cindy Neely leads the meeting by introducing the requirements of the Commission. She states that this is a perpetual standing commission, which means it is a permanent job. Commission members are asked to oversee and keep an eye out on the Silver Plume Mountain Park (SPMP). Commission members are asked to make suggestions but are not expected to accomplish anything personally. The SPMP Commission is responsible for overseeing both the North and South side of the Silver Plume valley. The Town of Silver Plume bought the Jack Pine land on the North side of the valley and are attempting to purchase the Taylor Kennedy land on the North side as well, to protect the land. The north side of the SPMP is comprised of the Jack Pine Purchase and hopefully the Taylor Kennedy Purchase. The South side includes the Argentine Central Grade. The Jack Pine Land purchase on the North side is covered by a Conservation Easement held by the Colorado Historical Foundation, represented currently by Cindy Nasky, who will be passing the baton to Gheda Gayou. DOLA will not be granting any funding to the Town for the potential Taylor Kennedy Land Acquisition, although they did provide funding for the Jack Pine purchase. Per the Master Plan made for the Jack Pine land, no unapproved construction or alterations can be made to the land covered by the Conservation Easement, although the CE is not meant to be restrictive and ideally will encourage recreation. This CE also only applies to the North Half of the Valley. The South Side of the Valley, including the Argentine Central Grade, was acquired in a BLM transfer of land in 1993 by an act of the federal government. Frank Young

and Peter Kenney went to Washington and lobbied for the municipality to be granted this land instead of Clear Creek County or History Colorado (Georgetown Loop Railroad). The Land was then transferred from BLM to TOSP under the rules of Recreation and Public Purpose. This is how the grade obtained the regulation of no motorized access. The HDPLC oversees and protects the South Side of the valley. Their Master Plan acknowledges the pre-dating BLM transfer rules by designating the Argentine Central and associated trails as non-motorized. The SPMP Commission will address damage and report to the proper authorities, depending on the circumstance. There are many entities that are a part of the HDPLC, including the Trails Crew, who may be the biggest resource and contact point. SPMP Commission is tasked with creating a contact list to post in Small Town Hall. When reporting issues, the Public should report to the SPMP Commission, and Commission Members should report to the proper authorities. Although the 7:30 and Argentine Central Grades are now Town Trails, they were originally created for different purposes. The Argentine Central Grade was once a railroad grade. This means the ownership is officially unknown. It was a railroad grade, but once it was decommissioned the ownership became unclear. If the Fed Government gave the easement to the RR, then it could be considered public property. If the land was originally privately owned and the private landowner gave the easement to the Railroad, then the ownership claim is a bit unclear. However, after 16 (19?) years of public use it becomes Public ROW per the public use statutes. The 7:30 Trail is owned by the County, as it was originally a Toll Road that was deeded to Clear Creek County. It has a definition of a width of 33 ft from the main line. TOSP does not own the 7:30 road, although the Town is the designated manager of the Road per the HDPLC Resolutions. The purpose of the Jack Pine purchase, and the potential Taylor Kennedy Purchase, is to protect the land, and therefore, it is the Towns responsibility to not allow others to un-stabilize the mountain. Above the 7:30 Road is the Bard Creek Trail, from Herman Gulch to above Silver Plume. Currently one would need to bushwhack to make the trails connect, but a future goal of the Town could be to connect those two trail systems. The Town Clerk is asked to send an electronic version of the SPMPN Master Plan to all commission members. Also, a detailed contact list is discussed. Commission details are also discussed. The current commission term will last from June 2025 to June 2027. Half of the Commission members (2) will be up for appointments in 2027, and the other half (3) will be up for appointments in June of 2028. Commission members will meet quarterly and will report to the SP Town Board in the form of minutes. On July 12th, 2025, Commission members will meet to take a walk through of the 7:30 and Argentine Trails, to get a base line for monitoring. Monitoring should take place twice a year. Spring/Fall monitoring sessions, and then Summer/Winter check in meetings. Officers are appointed, Commission votes in Michael Frey as Chairman with C. Nihiser motioning to appoint M. Frey as Commission Chairman, M. Gitlin seconding the motion, and the motion passes with all in favor. C. Nihiser volunteers to act as Secretary to the commission, being responsible for facilitating the meetings and taking minutes to provide to the Board.

V. Updates:

a. **Miscellaneous Updates:** N/A

VI. Adjournment: M. Frey motioned for adjournment at 4:12pm. M. Gitlin seconds, motion passes with all in favor.