



**Wednesday, December 16, 2009
Douglas County
100 Third Street, Castle Rock**

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBER ATTENDEES:

Castle Pines North: Jeffrey Huff

Castle Rock: Sally Misare, Doug Lehnen, Randy Reed

Larkspur: Sherilyn West, Matt Krimmer

Lone Tree: Michelle Kivela, Pat Braden, Jackie Millet

Parker: David Casiano, Phyllis O'Reilly, Patti McKee

Douglas County: Steve Boand, Jack Hilbert, Jill Repella, Doug DeBord, Dru Campbell, Wendy Holmes, Jack Arrowsmith, Teri Cox, Wes Riber, Sharon Jones and Sheriff Weaver.

Douglas County Libraries: Jamie LaRue

Douglas County School District: John Carson

Highlands Ranch Metro District: Terry Nolan, Vicky Starkey

GUESTS: State Senators Mark Scheffel and Ted Harvey, State Representatives Carol Murray and Frank McNulty

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS –

Chairman David Casiano called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Attendees introduced themselves.

WELCOME – Douglas County

JURISDICTIONAL UPDATES

Castle Pines North – Mayor Huff gave an update on his election and his appointment to Mayor, Doug Gilbert as Treasurer, as well as selecting three new council members. Jan. 11 will be the swearing in ceremony. The annexation of the Canyon property east of I-25 has been completed.

Castle Rock – Mayor Reed mentioned the 74th lighting of the Star on Castle Rock. The 2009 Turkey Rock Trot had over one thousand participants. The interchange at I-25 and Plum Creek Parkway has been completed. Randy announced that the Youth Congress in 2010 will be held at the State Capital. Castle Rock will be ending 2009 in the black if there are no unforeseen developments and it was announced last week that staff would not be asked to take Christmas Eve as a furlough day. Vitamin Cottage has recently opened and we expect Sprouts to open after the first of the year. The Town will be discussing their position on medical marijuana dispensaries at the upcoming Council meeting.

Larkspur – Mayor West spoke of the Fairview Campgrounds annexation being near completion. The recent Tree Lighting Ceremony was very successful with 400 to 500 people in attendance. The Council passed a moratorium on medical marijuana for six months and will be looking towards the Partnership for guidance on this issue.

Lone Tree – Pat Braden mentioned their participation in the “Fit for CO”, how nice the weather turned out for their walk and the coverage by Channel 4 News. Lone Tree’s Citizen Survey results will be ready for Council in January. The Cultural Center will be breaking ground in March. Lone Tree has entered into an IGA to extend East Gate Parkway and Park Meadows will be opening an “American Girl Store” in the near future.

Parker – David Casiano summarized the recent Armenian Delegation’s visit to Parker. For those interested in hosting foreign delegates David encouraged them to contact Sister Cities. David mentioned Jeannene Bragg’s future transition to Director of Cultural Arts and the search for a new Town Administrator. The medical marijuana issue is also a concern for the Town and David would like to have a Partnership discussion.

Douglas County – Jack Hilbert gave the update on the County. Their budget is finished for now but they may be looking at revisions in June. Taking advantage of the recent low construction bids many road projects have been started or completed in the county. A few examples are Hess Road, Ridge Gate (TMA money was used), Chambers and the C-470 and Santa Fe overpass (C-470 funds were used).

Steve Board commented how pleased he was that they were able to move ahead with the road projects. They will continue to work for all the people in Douglas County and hope to have equitable presence in all areas.

Jill Repella said the construction bids were coming in surprisingly low and they will be taking advantage of that to spread our dollars as many miles as possible. The Web site is almost complete and there will be a focus on promoting Douglas County as a whole.

Pat Braden thinks we should work on ordinances that are consistent in all communities.

Jack Hilbert would also like to see the Partnership look at the medical marijuana issue. He would like to see all of us be consistent in the ordinances we pass. He also spoke of legislation that would regulate the law that allows a person to bury someone on their private property without notifying the county coroner.

Douglas County Libraries – Jamie LaRue mentioned that the library is receiving over 2,000 visitations every day and is the second busiest library in Colorado. The library in an effort to help out the Task Force during the holidays, donated the monies collected from fines, raising \$10,000 for the Task Force. David Casiano asked Jamie to share the story behind the redesign of the Parker Library. There was a wonderful lady by the name of Berna Backenback who left the library \$80,000, so the library matched that with \$40,000. The library did a complete redesign and doubled the size of the children's area.

Douglas County School District – John Carson recently named President of the School Board gave the update. John mentioned that Ryan Stewart was named Vice President and the budget will continue to be a large concern expecting to absorb 8percent in State cuts. The Superintendent nationwide search is underway and we hope to have a selection by May or June of 2010. We have a task force working with teachers on a new pay system with an emphasis on a pay for performance and hope to have the first phase ready by the 2010 school year.

Jack Arrowsmith, Clerk and Recorder, spoke of the recent Parker Water and Sanitation District recall election. It was extremely close; the vacant seat was filled with Randal Hulls. Three other members were being recalled in that election; at this moment in time none of the members were recalled. Mary Spencer won by .76 percent, Mike Casey by 1.48 percent and Sheppard Root by .18percent. If the percentage is less than half of 1 percent there will be a mandatory recount. New numbers will be announced on Dec. 30.

Highlands Ranch Metro District – Vicky Starkey said their 2010 Budget had been adopted and shared a *handout noting its highlights. The good news was they will be able to maintain their current level of service, add an ambulance plus staffing and continue with the transition of the Highlands Ranch Mansion property.

2010 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

State Senator Mark Scheffel: With this being an election year the sessions will become very political. Naturally money will be the big issue and since there is not much of it things may be simpler. Obviously we will see legislation on medical marijuana, there is a proposal by Chris Romer. I encourage you all to have public meetings but what I am seeing is two opinions on this issues, one is that it violates the Federal Law and we should resist it at all levels. The counter is it's here, regulate it, tax it to death and benefit from it.

Representative Murray is working to be changing fees on vehicle registration, giving citizens a break on late fees for idle vehicles and equipment. Tighten up voter's

registration drives. Carol will be working on college credit transferability among all our Colorado community colleges and universities establish a bottom line of acceptability so all lateral level credits are transferable. PARA is going to be a big issue. There is no good answer to this problem and is a difficult time for the state. Douglas County has a very strong present on SIPA.

Representative McNulty said he was bracing for the worst, based on the comments of the Speaker this session is going to be very political and partisan. It appears the agendas will be very aggressive, with a push to increase taxes and fees, which should be a concern for all of us with these economic times. The medical marijuana dispensaries should be a very dynamic discussion with a possible solution that will benefit the public and still maintain public safety. Frank plans to introduce several bills this session: one that will prohibit the School Districts from hiring anyone who has been convicted of a violent crime or drug felon in a position that would have regular contact with children, RTD mass transit development legislation and one for tax amnesty legislation.

PARTING COMMENTS FROM 2009 CHAIR

David Casiano's parting thoughts were that we needed to change the way we look at things and the things we look at change. Consider the impact on others and continue to work together for the good of all Douglas County. He expressed his gratitude for the honor of serving as Chair to the Partnership this past year. David welcomed Sherilyn West to the position of Chair and wished her success.

COMMENTS FROM 2010 CHAIR

Sherily West accepted the position of Chair and expressed her desire to continue the Partnerships work together for the greater good of all Douglas County entities. She is looking forward to the New Year and feels privileged to serve in this group.

LISTING OF ACTION ITEMS FROM MEETING

Bring the PDCG members and appropriate staff together to discuss the medical marijuana issue.

ADJOURN

Chairman Sherilyn West adjourned the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patti McKee
Executive Assistant
Town of Parker

*NEXT MEETING:
City of Lone Tree
January 20, 2010
Location: TBD*