



Above: Rendered sketch PD plan for The Village as presented in the Monument Planning Commission packet at www.monumenttownco.documents-on-demand.com.

Other statements and questions from the Planning Commission include Co-Chairman Daniel Ours's perspective that building residential developments in this area would be preferable for current residents, as compared to a business moving in nearby someone that they might not

want as a neighbor, as well as inquiries about the timeline of this development, a request to know whether there would be sound walls between residents and the highway, and concerns about the proposed density of the development. Establishing a concrete timeline is difficult at this time, Barlow

said, because what might take five to six years in a thriving market could take between 10 and 12 if the market crashes, or depending on which developers buy the land. No decisions have been made about a sound wall.

There were several public comments discussing this proposal, including but not limited to a citizen wanting it on the record that she is opposed to so many more homes being built in Monument, as she hopes to preserve the community's "small town" feel, and that she is concerned about the town's future with water. She and another citizen both agreed that the estimated number of new District 38 students that would come along with this development seems like a miscalculation, and that there would likely be more school-age children involved considering the proposed density. Another resident registered her approval of the project, noting that she has difficulty visualizing commercial development in the area. It was suggested that a main walking trail be moved closer to the center of the property to avoid potentially dangerous activity.

Another resident stated that Monument, "like most of America," needs to provide more affordable housing

for potential citizens. He described how his children have moved away from the town but that people in their position would be more likely to live in Monument if provided with more variety in housing choices. He also explained his desire for a trailhead in this development and noted a desire for accessible public transportation. Barlow also answered a citizen's question about drainage for the project, describing a plan for detention ponds. See www.ocn.me/v20n3.htm#photos about a Feb. 18 community meeting that NES hosted recently about the current proposal.

In the end, a motion to approve this proposal passed 4-3, with Chairman Melanie Strop as well as Commissioners Chris Wilhelmi and Steve King voting against. King prefaced his vote with a comment that he supports the idea of mixed-use development but is opposed to the proposed density of this project. Ours, as well as Lewis, LaKind, and Joshua Thomas, voted to approve recommendation of this proposal, with Thomas noting that he was voting favorably "in the interest of mixed-income housing." The proposal

has now moved on to be considered by the Board of Trustees.

MPC meetings are normally held on the second Wednesday of the month at 645 Beacon Lite Rd. Information: 884-8017 or www.townofmonument.org/meetings/. The Wed., April 8 meeting will reportedly be Live-streamed at <http://bit.ly/2uZxjfa>.

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Monument Board of Trustees special meeting, March 23

Monument declares local disaster; virtual meetings approved

By Allison Robenstein

On March 23, the Monument Board of Trustees held a special meeting to approve a resolution declaring a local disaster emergency related to the COVID-19 virus pandemic. The board was also asked to review a virtual meeting policy.

Trustees Laurie Clark and Greg Coopman were noted absent.

Resolution to declare local disaster emergency

Town Manager Mike Foreman asked the board to review the local disaster emergency declaration based on Colorado Gov. Jared Polis' declaration of a statewide state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and El Paso County's statement of local disaster emergency.

Mayor Don Wilson noted the declaration is mainly intended to allow the town to request reimbursement from the state should it spend excessive money on the crisis.

The declaration follows directives from the Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management (PPROEM) and the governor's office. Foreman said he and staff have been working closely with these governmental agencies and have been on conference calls with Sen. Cory Gardner.

The declaration delegates the following authority to Foreman:

- Establish regulations and curfews.

- Compel evacuations if an area of the town is stricken or threatened in order to preserve life, property, or other public health mitigations,
- Close businesses deemed nonessential by PPROEM.
- Utilize all available town resources to respond to this public health emergency.

Foreman may appropriate and expend funds, execute contracts, authorize the acquisition of property, equipment, services, supplies, and materials without strict compliance with the town's procurement regulations or procedures, not to exceed \$25,000.

The declaration also halts all Planning Commission meetings unless they are approved to be held virtually.

Trustee Jeffrey Bornstein said, "We're empowering the town manager, but I would hope if there is a decision outside of the governor's [directives], before you implement it you would reach out to the board ... before you do anything relative to the town ... if you would commit to that, it would" make everyone feel better. Foreman confirmed he would confer with the board but would not request a vote since that would mean holding an additional public meeting.

Trustee Ron Stephens was concerned that in the midst of a crisis, decisions get made

quickly, but the process of thinking things out all the way



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MVEA BOARD NOMINATIONS

One Member. One Vote. Your Voice Matters.

During the Annual Meeting on June 4, 2020, at Falcon High School in Falcon, two directors will be elected to the Mountain View Electric Association, Inc. Board of Directors from the following districts:

District 2: Simla, Matheson, and a portion of the surrounding areas
(incumbent Rick L. Gordon)

District 7: Monument, Woodmoor, and a portion of the surrounding areas
(incumbent Donna J. Andersen-Van Ness)

The "Procedure for Director Elections and Member Voting" is available on MVEA's website at www.mvea.coop/annual-meeting.

To view a territory map with districts, visit www.mvea.coop/territory-map.

Are you interested in being an MVEA Board of Directors candidate? A candidate must be an MVEA member and reside in the district where there is a vacancy. Visit MVEA's Annual Meeting web page at www.mvea.coop/annual-meeting for additional candidate requirements. Click on "By-laws" and go to Article III, Section 2. A member interested in nomination should contact the MVEA Board Nomination Information Line at (719) 494-2528 and leave a message. You will be contacted to verify your membership, district, and to begin the nomination process. A member may seek election by nomination by the nominating committee or nomination by petition.

- To be nominated by the nominating committee, please contact the MVEA Board Nomination Information Line at (719) 494-2528. If seeking election by nomination through the nominating committee, a candidate questionnaire must be received by MVEA to be submitted to the committee by 5:30 p.m., Thursday, March 26, 2020.
- To be nominated by petition, you must have the petition signed by 15 MVEA members. Petitions and procedures will be made available by contacting the MVEA Board Nomination Information Line at (719) 494-2528. The petition, along with a completed candidate questionnaire, must be returned to an MVEA office by 5:30 p.m., Monday, April 20, 2020.

A candidate questionnaire must be completed for either nomination by the committee or nomination by petition. If you have questions, please contact the MVEA Board Nomination Information Line.

Nominating Committee ••• District 2: Steve P. Wilson District 7: Linda K. Fenster

MVEA Board Nomination Information Line
Tel: (719) 494-2528
Email: candidate@mvea.coop

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