

Monument Board of Trustees, July 16

Tri-Lakes Views receives Jim Moore Award

By Jim Kendrick

On July 16, the Town of Monument, with the assistance of the Historic Monument Merchants Association (HMMA), honored the Tri-Lakes Views organization (www.trilakesviews.org) with the fourth Jim Moore award for the group's long and distinguished contributions to urban excellence, progress, and preservation in downtown Monument.

Town Manager Cathy Green said the recipients of the award, a person or group, are selected by a group from HMMA and presented by the Town of Monument. The award recognizes people who make Monument a better place, a special place. The award is typically given for renovation and beautification of a building.

Mayor Travis Easton read a town proclamation that described the history and purpose of the award and presented it to Tri-Lakes Views President Sky Hall, who gave an "art-full" slide presentation on the six-year history of the group. Also recognized were former Mayor Betty Konarski, Tri-Lakes Views public relations representative, and former Trustee and HMMA representative Tommie Plank.

Shirk presented Waldo Canyon award

Monument Police Chief Jake Shirk gave a short briefing on outstanding cooperation his department received from numerous local first-responder agencies during the Waldo Canyon Fire, particularly the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Department, the Donald Wescott Fire Department, the Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department, and the Palmer Lake Police Department.

He also noted his department's assistance in a "buy-bust" organized by the FBI and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation that recovered a large volume of stolen personal property looted during fire evacuations.

Shirk recognized Lt. Steve Burk and Sgt. Mark Owens for their many hours of planning and leadership throughout the town's response to the fire, three evacuated Monument police officers, and one officer who returned from out of state, cutting his vacation short.

Shirk also displayed a historical map of all wildfires along the Front Range over the past 12 years and described the threat to the Monument area. A second fire probability map showed where the fire would have spread without the mitigation actions of the emergency responders.

Mayor Easton thanked Shirk for his constant communication throughout the Waldo Canyon Fire and presented

him with a plaque recognizing his leadership for all citizens of the Tri-Lakes region during the emergency.

The board unanimously approved a resolution reappointing Don Smith, the chair of the Board of Adjustments.

The board unanimously approved the recommendations of Code Enforcement Officer Laura Hogan for the annual renewal of liquor licenses. Green said Hogan was filling in for Town Clerk Cynthia Sirochman, who was attending town clerk school. The approved renewals were for:

- Monument Liquor Mart, 15756 Jackson Creek Parkway
- La Casa Fiesta Restaurant, 230 Front St.

Financial reports

The board unanimously approved three disbursements over \$5,000:

- \$135,868 to Triview Metropolitan District, which included \$128,581 for Triview's share of May sales tax, \$5,600 for June motor vehicle tax, and \$288 for June Regional Building sales tax.
- \$22,316 to CIRSA Insurance for third-quarter workers comp insurance.
- \$14,167 to CIRSA Insurance for third-quarter liability insurance.

The town's net sales tax collections through June were \$100,000 (10.3 percent) more than budgeted.

General fund revenues in June were \$294,000 (7.8 percent) more than budgeted, while expenditures were \$333,000 (8.8 percent) less than budgeted. For the year, the general fund net balance was \$627,000.

The board unanimously accepted the financial report as presented.

Public Works Director Tom Tharnish reported that asphalt paving projects on Mount Herman Road, Old Denver Highway, and Third Street have been completed. He also said new "No Swimming" signs have been posted around the shoreline of Monument Lake. Work on installing a generator hookup is continuing for the Well 7 water treatment plant, and upgrades to the automated water treatment controls are underway.

Tharnish invited the board members and staff to take a tour of the Second Street water treatment plant at 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 6 before the 6:30 p.m. board meeting.

Public comments

Fitness advocate Clint Knox, www.spreeracing.com, asked the board and staff to consider sponsoring the swimming portion in Monument Lake for a "sprint triathlon" to be held next summer. The event would be sanctioned by USA Triathlon. He noted that the overall financial benefit for the event would be about \$126,000.

Mayor Travis Easton said it would be a good idea. Town Manager Cathy Green asked Knox to contact her at her office to further explore his proposal.

The board went into executive session at 7:45 p.m. to



Above (L to R): Monument Police Chief Jake Shirk receives from Monument Mayor Trais Easton a plaque recognizing Shirk's leadership during the Waldo Canyon Fire. Photo by Jim Kendrick.



Above: At the Monument Board of Trustees meeting July 16, Tri-Lakes View received the Jim Moore Award for the group's long and distinguished contributions to urban excellence, progress, and preservation in downtown Monument. Standing from left are Tri-Lakes Views representatives Betty Konarski, Tommie Plank, and Sky Hall. Photo by Jim Kendrick.

discuss pending litigation.

The next meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 6 at Town Hall, 645 Beacon Lite Road. Meetings are normally held the first and third Monday of the month. Information: 881-8017.

Jim Kendrick can be reached at jimkendrick@ocn.me.

Monument Planning Commission, July 11

Storage business improvements approved

By Jim Kendrick

At the Monument Planning Commission meeting held on July 11, Tom Kassawara, director of Development Services, introduced new Planning Commissioner Brad Hogan, whose wife Laura is the town's new code enforcement officer. He also introduced new Senior Planner Patricia Parish, who has planning experience working for Colorado Springs and El Paso County. Both were attending their first meeting in Town Hall.

Hogan, who grew up in Monument, replaced Becki Tooley, who moved to the Board of Trustees. His appointment runs until the end of 2012. Parish had been on the staff for about six weeks prior to attending this meeting. Commissioner Glenda Smith was absent.

Electric Propulsion addition approved

Graeme and Martha Aston sought approval of a major amendment to the preliminary/final planned development (PD) site plan for their business, Electric Propulsion

Laboratories. They plan to add a new 5,000-square-foot building for testing and assembly on the east side of their facility at 1040 Synthes Ave. in the Monument industrial park. The application also sought approval for a second 5,000-square-foot addition to this new structure to be constructed when the economy picks up.

Several trees will be added along the eastern boundary of the Electric Propulsion property to act as a visual buffer for the Trails End community. The new building and subsequent addition would have the same architecture as the current structure.

Neighboring homeowners Brandy Schwindt and Keith Hyatt of Trails End spoke in favor of the application.

The commission unanimously approved the proposal with two conditions:

- An executed water deed must be recorded prior to the



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