

Monument Board of Trustees, April 15

May 5 recreational bike ride approved

By Jim Kendrick

On April 15, the Monument Board of Trustees approved a special events permit for a Recreational Cycling Ride to be held in the Monument area on Sunday, May 5. The ride will start at Limbach Park at 7 a.m.

Chris Witt of Club Café Velo gave a presentation to the board on a Special Event Permit application that was turned into the town clerk too late to be placed on the meeting's agenda.

Witt stated the event is a Recreational Cycling Ride that will start at Limbach Park at 7 a.m. and end at the park at 2 p.m. Witt stated that El Paso County Sheriff's deputies have been scheduled to assist in safely escorting riders through intersections and narrow roadways. The board asked Witt to work with Police Chief Jacob Shirk on the town portions of the ride. The board unanimously approved the Special Event Permit.

Trustees' comments

Trustee Becki Tooley asked for all present to pray for the victims of the Boston Marathon bombing. She also reminded her colleagues that there is a 5k run/walk on May 11 starting at Palmer Lake to benefit Tri-Lakes Cares.

Trustee Rafael Dominguez stated that as the town's liaison for the Tri-Lakes Economic Development Corp., he would like the town to share in the cost of events that benefit both organizations. The board agreed to pay half of Dominguez's current invoices, which were less than \$200.

Mayor Travis Easton stated that the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is looking to reallocate some of its funding for transportation-related projects. As a result, the Town of Monument may be on CDOT's list of cuts.

PR presentation

Public relations firm Blakely and Co. presented a strategic marketing plan proposal to the board. Tom Kassawara, director of Development Services, received board approval to move forward with negotiations for a proposed Blakely contract for a base amount of \$15,000 and a "cafeteria plan" for other recommendations, with proposed costs for each option.

Earth Day and Arbor Day noted

The board unanimously approved a proclamation declaring April 15 as Earth Day.

The board also approved a proclamation declaring April 19 as Arbor Day for the Town of Monument. Citizen Randy Valentine stated he owns Twenty 1 Five, a business that makes furniture with reclaimed wood. He would like to work with the town by planting a tree for every piece of furniture he sells. The board thanked Valentine for his offer and agreed it would be a great idea for him to work with Public Works Director Tom Tharnish to coordinate his tree donations.

Liquor license approved

The board unanimously approved a special event liquor license for the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce Monument in Motion event that will be held downtown on Labor Day, Sept. 2. This event will feature a kinetic sculpture parade and race through downtown and to Palmer Lake. The street fair activities along Front Street will include food and beverage concessions, vendors, kids' games, and musical entertainment.

The special event permit allows Front Street between Limbach Park and Third Street and Second Street east to the Santa Fe Trail crossing to be closed from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The chamber's beer tent will be operated by Pikes Peak Brewing Co.

Financial reports

The board unanimously approved two disbursements of \$5,000:

- \$102,029 to Triview Metropolitan District for February sales tax (\$95,402), March motor vehicle tax (\$6,507), and March Regional Building sales tax (\$120).
- \$30,321 to Medved Ford for a Ford F-250 pickup truck for Public Works.

Deputy Treasurer Monica Harder presented the February sales tax report. Collections through February were \$45,000 or 11.7 percent higher than the amount budgeted.

Staff reports

Some of the Development Services items Kassawara noted were:

- Kassawara gave a slide presentation on the traffic circle-vs.-signal issue at the Second Street and Beacon Light Road intersection. Tharnish expressed concerns about the traffic circle being so close to the

main water plant building wall.

- Kum & Go has agreed to place signage on their property directing traffic to Cipriani Loop in order to access Highway 105.
- There were seven single-family residential land use permits issued during March, all in Triview. The total for the year is now 16, with 14 in Triview.

Some of the Public Works items Tharnish noted were:

- The new tiered water rate structure went into effect on May 1.
- The town was selected as a "Tree City USA" for the 19th straight year. This award was for 2012. The Tree City USA flag is flying at the I-25/Second Street flag poles underneath the Town of Monument flag.
- Well 7 repairs are complete; production is back up to normal flow.

Some of the Police Department items that Chief Shirk reported were:

- The first July 4 fireworks meeting was held with representatives from multiple agencies to discuss the event.
- The group Cops & Clergy met to discuss community needs, and Chief Shirk did a presentation on the legal issues surrounding guns in churches.
- Chief Shirk met with District 38 Safety and Security Committee to discuss enhancing school safety.

Town Treasurer and Interim Town Manager Pamela Smith reported that she and Harder would begin the 2012 audit prep work on April 29.

Public comments

Business owner John Dominowski asked that the trees on Second Street be examined. Several appear to be dying. Tharnish stated that the trees are under a two-year warranty. Colorado State University Extension will complete a survey by the end of the summer of all trees in Monument regarding health and life expectancy.

The board went into executive session at 9:35 p.m., then adjourned at 10 a.m.

The next meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on May 6 at Town Hall, 645 Beacon Lite Rd. Meetings are normally held on first and third Monday of the month. Information: 884-8017.

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

Monument Planning Commission, April 10

Landscaping and temporary sign codes amended

By Jim Kendrick

On April 10, the Monument Planning Commission unanimously approved changes to the landscaping and temporary sign codes as proposed by Principal Planner Mike Pesicka. One change removed percentage limits on the amount of nonliving landscaping material that can be proposed for developments in non-residential zoning districts.

The temporary sign code revisions added language for banner boards for nonprofits and charitable organizations as well as updated language for temporary real estate signs, corporate flags, and mounting requirements for ground-mounted banners on private property. A definition was added for nonprofit and charitable organizations.

The absence of Chairman Ed DeLaney was excused. Commissioner Kathy Spence was acting chair for this meeting.

Landscaping limits eliminated

Pesicka noted that the existing landscaping code limited the amount of non-living material, such as rock and gorilla hair mulch, to 20 percent of the landscaped area. The code also allowed a property owner to request approval from the Monument Board of Trustees for up to 50 percent. He said that the current emphasis on water conservation and use of xeriscaping has led the staff to conclude these percentage limits are no longer appropri-

ate for commercial properties. The requirement to have bushes and trees would remain in place.

The amount of irrigation water that the town is requiring commercial developments to use to keep currently required sod alive will be reduced by allowing elimination of sod from commercial landscaping. This will allow commercial properties to switch to drip irrigation, which uses less water and is sufficient for the other types of required plantings.

Banner and banner board restrictions eased

Pesicka stated that the banner and banner board revisions were a joint effort by the town staff, nonprofits, and charitable organizations. The regulation changes would allow advertising for special events at other places in addition to event sites and an organization's property. There would be no fee for advertising on these town banner boards. Posting of banners will be on a first-come first-served basis for up to 14 days prior to an event. Banners would have to be taken down within three days after the event has ended.

Each banner board may be up to 6 feet wide, 10 feet high, and 30 square feet in area. There will be two advertising spaces and a Town of Monument logo on each board. The final design of these town banner boards will be presented to the Board of Trustees for final approval at

Peak Ranch's Alpaca Boutique & Tours

Open Saturdays 10-4pm

New Designs in Alpaca Apparel Outerwear, Blankets & Yarns





Text the word **PEAK** to 42828 to be added to our e-club for special discounts!

19850 Beacon Lite/Monument
(719)232-8509
PeakRanchAlpacas.com

Save 10% of your entire Alpaca Boutique purchases.
Good through 5-31-13



- Local Off-Duty Firefighter
- Residential/Commercial Maintenance Mowing
- Aeration/Fertilization
- Acreage Mowing
- Tractor w/Loader Work
- Fire Mitigation
- General Cleanup

FREE Estimates • Insured

Ryan Graham - (719) 351-4014