

## **Minutes for January 22, 2008: Citizen Outreach Group**

3<sup>rd</sup> floor Commissioners Conference Room  
27 East Vermijo Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Proceedings were audio-taped and are the official record of the meeting

### **Attendees:**

Jan Doran, Sue Crozier, Amy Lathen, Lois Blackwell, Bob Null, Gary Nance, Bernie Herpin, Joe Salute, Conrad Schaap

### **Other attendees:**

Commissioner Jim Bensberg; Commissioner Sallie Clark; Bailey Miller, Public Communications Department; Imad Karaki, Director of Employee Benefits and Medical Services; citizens Eric Mitchell, Jeri Lucien, and Theresa Null.

### **Meeting notes:**

1. Chair Jan Doran called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

2. Roll was taken. Curtis Lorash was absent and excused. Bob Null and Conrad Schaap were reappointed to the COG. Francine Hansen did not reapply..

3. Commissioner Comments –

Commissioner Bensberg discussed the recent announcement concerning the location of an ICE office in Colorado Springs; he passed out materials on timeline and project status. He thanked the group for support of this project.

Commissioner Clark is gathering information on the issue of licensing Massage Therapists in El Paso County. The county may license massage parlors but not massage givers because we are not a home-rule county. State legislation may remedy the situation somewhat by licensing Massage Therapists. Sue Crozier, Bob Null and Jan Doran volunteered to help with the research on this.

Commissioner Clark also mentioned meetings for land use code revisions and the Fountain Creek Vision. She is attending the National Association of Counties with a resolution concerning the coverage by Dept. of Human Services of abused and neglected children of illegal aliens.

She also stated the county was working with the city to make improvements on south Nevada by making it an enterprise zone.

She asked that the COG start thinking about the next County Volunteer Appreciation Event.

4. Citizen Comments -

Eric Mitchell expressed concern regarding county commissioners' voting records. The commissioners had suggested he speak to the COG. Eric suggested that commission votes be reported the same as congressional votes, i.e. how each commissioner voted on each issue. He also suggested knowing why a commissioner voted on an issue would be helpful to citizens..

5. Minutes from Nov. 13, 2007 were approved. Motion by Amy Lathen, and Seconded by Bob Null.

6. Sunshine Act –

Bailey did the annual reading of the Sunshine Law.

7. National Association of Counties Acts of Caring Award Application -

Bailey has filled out the application for this award with direction from Sallie. COG has been entered in the Community Improvement category for the Citizens College.

8. Town Hall Meetings –

The first town hall meeting is tentatively scheduled on March 22 at 10AM; possibly at the Gold Hill Mesa Police Substation or Cheyenne Mountain High School. Gary Nance, Bernie Herpin, Joe Salute, and Conrad Schaap will work with Jan Doran on this. Publicity and format were discussed, including when and/or whether the commissioners should speak, the attendance of other elected officials, etc. Imad stated that it is important that there be emphasis that the COG is hosting the meeting.

9. Other Business –

State of the Region Luncheon will be held at the Penrose Equestrian Center VIP room. Commissioner Hisey will speak. All COG members expressed interest in attending. Bailey will determine if the cost of the luncheon is covered in our budget as it was last year.

Conrad announced the public information meetings on the Falcon/Peyton Master Plan on January 23 at Falcon HS and January 31 at Peyton MS.

Recognition of outgoing members was discussed. A plaque or resolution should be given to thank them for their service to the COG and the county.

Resignation – Amy Lathen was recently appointed to the Board of County Commissioners; she resigned from the COG.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 11:34. The next meeting will be on February 12, 2008.

Sue Crozier  
Secretary