

Citizen Outreach Group

April 10, 2007

3rd floor Commissioners Conference Room
27 East Vermijo Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Minutes for April 10, 2007 :

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

Attendees:

Francine Hansen, Sue Crozier, Jan Doran, Amy Lathen, Jan Martin, Gary Nance, Bob Null, Conrad Schaap, and Lois Blackwell signed-in.

Joe Salute and Renee Hartslielief were excused.

Other attendees:

Julie Johnson, Public Communications Department.

Meeting notes:

1. Chairman Jan Doran called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

The group expressed condolences to Lois on the loss of her husband. Members signed a get well card for Joe Salute.

2. Roll was taken.

4. The minutes were approved. Motion by Conrad Schaap; second by Jan Martin.

5. Subcommittee Reports:

1- Bob and Sue reported on the Technology Committee meeting. We have asked Jeff to come to the May meeting to report on the Website. was cancelled until next month.

6. Old Business:

1- Volunteer Appreciation – This has been changed to a June date. Jan Doran and Amy have met with Sallie Clark. About 400 people are expected. There will be a cash bar; El Pomar will do the food.

2- National Counties Week – We have no information on this.

3 - Citizen's College date – Amy and Francine have met and laid out the class sessions. Since there is not a city college this year, keeping the start date in September was discussed to give more time to get people to sign up. Francine has one vendor to do the food for all sessions. Most sessions will be held at the Regional Building Department auditorium.

4- Town Hall Meetings – It was felt that these should be informational without endorsing a specific position. The commissioners may not be ready to do these and are probably not going to put a tax increase on the 2007 ballot. These could possibly be held in November, February and April, starting with Sallie's district. Commissioners should probably not stay in attendance during the entire meeting. Possible format would include the commissioners and other elected officials speaking, followed by the public speaking and asking questions. Each district will have its own concerns; main concerns of citizens are public health, water and public safety.

8. Other

1 - The COG approved sending a letter of support to Colorado Legislators regarding a house bill which would close the legal loophole regarding illegal aliens and the Colorado court system. Bob and Francine will write this letter.

2 – Citizens for Effective Government – This is a community group which supports whatever needs the city has. Francine and Jan Doran are members. The COG should invite them to our meetings.

3 – County Fair Booth - Sue reported that we can get a space 8' x 10'. Julie Johnson can get us a full-color banner with grommets for \$87. We agreed to have the county and COG logos and the words “Educate, Motivate, Participate” on the banner. We discussed showing a short tape, 6 or 7 minutes, of the Citizens College. Conrad and Francine will edit the college tapes. The fair rules state that the booth must be manned during the time the fair is open. Sue and Jan Doran will work up a schedule for the June meeting and members can sign up. Bob discussed other events and venues where the COG should have a presence, such as Territory Days, Springspree, Cinco De Mayo, etc. Jan Martin stated we should find different ways of reaching out to the county citizens.

4 – Resignations – Jan Martin was elected to City Council and feels she should resign from the COG. Renee Hartslief is resigning due to family illness. These are both at-large seats. The bylaws have not been changed to address the need to stagger terms of three years. There was discussion regarding how to do this. Bob Null also suggested having more of occupations of new members.

9. The Meeting was adjourned at 11:01 AM. Motion by Bob Null; second by Gary Nance.