

Meeting summary for PJ Board Meetings 2025 (05/15/2025)

Meeting Summary with AI Companion <no-reply@zoom.us> Fri, May 16, 2025 at 9:38 AM

Location: EdCor (195 S Union Blvd Ste 200, Lakewood 80228) + Hybrid

Roll Call: Cathi Schramm, Vicki Gits, Jean Tate, Michelle Poolet, Don Moore

Call to Order: 6:37 PM MDT

Quick recap

The meeting began with financial updates and a discussion about a recent meeting with a county commissioner who emphasized the importance of organizational evolution. The group reviewed various operational matters including open space repositioning, land acquisition efforts, and staff surveys, while also addressing organizational structure and leadership roles. Updates were provided on several land acquisitions, trail developments, and park projects, including website redesign and highway closure issues.

Next steps

Michelle to delegate more tasks to other board members

Michelle to find someone to learn the IT aspects of her role as a backup

Michelle to assign specific responsibilities to individual board members

Don to talk to Peter about board positions and responsibilities Board to defer election of officers until all members are present Jean to create a summary spreadsheet for 2024 finances

Vicky to coordinate with Michelle to learn how to assist with the newsletter

Board to discuss and finalize roles of President, Vice President, and Secretary at the next meeting with all members present

Vicky to write a story for the newsletter next week

Summary

Financial Update and Commissioner Meeting

The meeting began with the approval of minutes from the April 17th meeting. The treasurer's report was presented, showing a PayPal balance of \$1,228.88, a First Bank balance of \$13,218.97, and a savings account balance of \$12,527.45. Margo's \$500 donation was acknowledged.

The group discussed a recent meeting with Rachel Zenzinger, a county commissioner, who is described as enthusiastic, engaged, and aware of Plan Jeffco and Open Space issues. Rachel's comment about the need for organizations to evolve as they age is highlighted as an important point for the group to consider.

Open Space Repositioning and Acquisition

General discussion: the repositioning of Open Space as part of Jeffco Parks and Conservation, emphasizing Tom's vision of making trails accessible within a 10-minute walk or drive for everyone. The group expressed concerns about the decline in land acquisition efforts and highlighted the need for a balance between preservation and stewardship. Michelle noted that the natural resources team is making progress with inventorying and restoring vegetation in preserves, while the reorganization seems to have provided them with more autonomy. She also

raised questions about the JCOS Grants Program's scope and the justification for certain acquisitions, advocating for a stronger focus on land acquisition to meet future needs.

Project Updates and Grant Strategies

The meeting covered several topics, including a review of action items, newsletter updates, and a discussion about the Clear Creek Trail construction project that finished 30 hours early. Vicky mentioned a potential story for next week and suggested ideas for future Park access restrictions. The group also discussed a possible grant program, with Cathi clarifying that the focus should be on finding people to fund rather than seeking grants directly. The conversation ended with a brief mention of scheduling a visitation event, which Don will coordinate with Douglas County Open Space.

Jeffco Email Cleanup and Survey

Michelle discussed the cleanup of Jeffco email addresses, noting that some could be removed as they were no longer in use. She planned to send server information to board members to help them set up their PLANJeffco.org email accounts. The group also reviewed survey results on the Open Space staff restructuring, which showed that about 40% of staff agreed that the new organizational structure was working well for them.

Committee Officers and IRS Planning

The Board discussed the election of officers but decided to postpone the discussion due to the absence of two current officers. They agreed to create a spreadsheet summarizing the committee's 2024 activities for IRS purposes. Jean mentioned she would be away from May 17-25 for a trip to Illinois.

Organizational Roles and Leadership Planning

The group discussed organizational structure and leadership roles, with a focus on dividing responsibilities between President and Vice President positions. They agreed that Michelle needed to delegate more tasks and find someone familiar with IT to serve as Vice President, while Courtney was confirmed as secretary. The team decided to postpone voting on these positions until they could have a face-to-face meeting with all members present.

Land Acquisitions and Trail Developments

Michelle discussed several land acquisitions and trail developments, including a small residential parcel, a trail easement connecting the Welch Ditch to South Table, and a playground development in Beaver Ranch Park that was funded through a grant and community matching. She mentioned that a new 8-acre acquisition adjacent to Meyer Ranch OS Park is being reconfigured to avoid running through a churchyard, and noted that while wolves are not yet in Jefferson County, moose have been spotted in the area. The meeting also covered updates on Deer Creek Canyon Park's partial reopening after helicopter-seeding operations, JCOS website redesign, and highway closure issues, with Michelle expressing concern about public property damage at the closure gates on Lookout Mountain Road.

Meeting adjourned: 8:04 PM MDT

Submitted by Zoom AI with oversight by M. Poolet, 6/9/2025