

Colorado Association of Ski Towns

Minutes August 19, 2005

Paul Strong opened meeting 8:20
Motion and 2nd to approve the June minutes.

Introductions

Steve Barwick introduced and explained Aspen's request for non-contiguous liquor license enabling legislation. Any comments should be made to Barwick regarding what other legislative changes should be incorporated. A suggestion was made that he also run it by the restaurant association. Comments are needed by September 19.

Rep. Kathleen Curry spoke about Referenda C & D and distributed a handout; voters need to know how this relates to them. In the last 3 years the State has cut 1 billion from the budget; 2001 to 2004. Health and Human Services and Higher Education have been cut the most because they are discretionary items. C is essentially a timeout from TABOR. It will enable the State to keep 3.1 billion. C allows money to be kept for 5 years. D is a bonding measure; mainly for capitol improvement—transportation infrastructure. The State has not been putting the required 175 million into fire and police pension fund. This makes the state liable and creates potential lawsuits. Drug and alcohol prevention, tourism marketing, higher education all are competing for limited dollars. The higher ed subsidy will be cut from \$2400 per student to \$700.

What's happening in CB and Mt CB?

Crested Butte Mayor Jim Schmidt: Average house price in CB is 1 million with house size capped at 2800 sq ft. More affordable housing projects—not much geographic room to grow in CB. They are more focused on mass transit than expanding roadways. They are also developing a new arts center. There is a political split on location and size of the new center. Molybdenum mine may reopen due to huge price increase—has potential to greatly impact the town. There is a desire for an indoor ice rink. As always, competition for resources and projects.

Mt. Crested Butte Mayor Chris Morgan: 10 years ago they looked at base area redevelopment but needed many more skier visits to be profitable for redevelopment to succeed. Passed RTA to guarantee airline flights. Passed tourism association tax; a lodging tax for about \$1 million in county wide marketing. When the Muellers bought the ski area, they saw the potential to work with the community on a shared vision. Skier service and infrastructure are being improved as well as master plan for improved services. They expect a \$25 million dollar investment over the next 20 years; underground parking with buildings on top—first phase of 89 condos, a conference center that will seat 400 people, a piece of land for a recreation center, improved transit center and pedestrian walkways. There is an improved political climate between CB and

Mt CB. Mt CB will have rooms, skiing and rec center — CB will have the retail and restaurants. Share the tourism. 15% affordable housing requirement.

Dan Richardson presented Aspen's Canary Initiative to catalog the City's impact on global warming and to reduce their carbon footprint. Any towns that would like to contribute would be appreciated and will become members of the Coalition and have access to all information developed. More information at <http://www.aspenglobalwarming.com/>

Stephen Saunders, President of the Rocky Mountain Climate Organization presented their efforts on climate change. He asked that if CAST or any members want to be members to contact him. CAST will vote at the next meeting on this donation.

Meeting was adjourned.