

Colorado Association of Ski Towns

October 28, 2011

Park City, UT

Meeting Minutes

The following were in attendance:

William Buck	Mt. Crested Butte	Peggy Smith	Fraser
Joe Fitzpatrick	Mt. Crested Butte	Russ Forrest	Snowmass Village
Tim Gagen	Breckenridge	Bill Boineau	Snowmass Village
John Warner	Breckenridge	Mark Barron	Jackson, WY
Steve Skadron	Aspen	Bob McLaurin	Jackson, WY
Bill Malone	Park City Chamber	Bob Lenz	Jackson, WY
Dan Gibbs	Summit County, CO	Roxanne Robinson	Jackson, WY
Drew Nelson	Winter Park	Jon Roberts	Steamboat Springs
Jimmy Lahrman	Winter Park	Bill Pelham	Frisco
Susan Parker	Crested Butte	Gary Wilkinson	Frisco
Aaron Huckstep	Crested Butte	Dana Williams	Park City, UT
Vicki Mattox	Stifel Nicolaus	Craig Sanchez	Park City, UT
Steve Jeffers	Stifel Nicolaus	Tom Bakaly	Park City, UT
Paul Perry	Teton County, WY	Michael Kovacs	Park City, UT
Steve Foster	Teton County, WY	Diane Foster	Park City, UT
Andy Schwartz	Teton County, WY	Michael Kaplan	University of Utah
Robert Feldstein	Mayor's Office, NYC		

The meeting was called to order by Vice President William Buck at 8:10 am.

Approval of Minutes

There was a motion and a second to approve the August 2011 meeting minutes, which was passed unanimously.

Dana Williams - Park City Mayor

Dana Williams welcomed the group and gave a background about his mayorship and the rebuild of city hall. Became mayor a week before the Olympics. Visioning for Park City involves a 3-circle system involving sustainability. Developed dynamic team to focus on visioning, which takes place every 5 years. Right now biggest emission is the pumping of water. 60% of water comes from mine shafts. Discussed Myles Rademan's leadership program.

Michael Kovacs - Park City Assistant City Manager

Michael gave a presentation about ICMA's performance measurement program, which Park City is very involved in. 130 cities feed performance data into the program. It is a high-maintenance program - need staff and time to commit to it. The cost is about \$3,000 a year. Towns need staff who will

“own” the program. Park City has an annual data entry session to make sure their data is accurate and up-to-date. Many of the comparison cities are not resort towns. The only other CAST member at this time is Mountain Village. Michael’s presentation is available on the CAST website at www.coskitowns.com/cms_files/Presentations_Archives/ICMA_CPM_Presentation_PC.pdf.

Diane Foster - Park City Sustainability Director

Diane’s sustainability team focuses on and is responsible for Economy, Environment and Community. Concerning the environment, studies have shown that by 2075 there will be no snow at the base area. For ski towns whose economies are based on snow, the impact of shorter ski seasons will be enormous. Park City has been working on, and has been able to cut their carbon footprint with 52 projects designed to improve energy efficiency. Began a “Save Our Snow” program to brand their efforts. Airlines are big factor in footprint. Diane’s presentation is available on the CAST website at www.coskitowns.com/cms_files/Presentations_Archives/Park_City_Environmental_Sustainability-CAST-October_2011.pdf.

Robert Feldstein - Mayor Bloomberg’s Office, New York City

Robert Feldstein came to speak about Mayor Bloomberg’s initiative - The Partnership for a New American Economy - a bipartisan group of mayors from across the country and business leaders from all sectors of the economy to raise awareness of the benefits of sensible immigration reform. It’s about new ideas and new ways of thinking. Immigrants are not harmful to our economy, in fact the opposite is true. They help with job growth. Immigrants are mostly entrepreneurs, take more risks, and are twice as likely to start new businesses. They help fill vital gaps in the workforce. They have higher mobility, they help demographically, and they help stabilize real estate in neighborhoods. 40% of the Fortune 500 were founded by immigrants or children of immigrants.

Companies that are labor intensive have a hard time filling jobs. Immigrants fill the gaps. If you have someone picking the tomatoes, that means you can hire someone else to sell seeds and fertilizers. After Katrina, there were a number of Spanish workers that came in and helped rebuild.

It’s very difficult for immigrants to obtain Visas. Microsoft opened new offices in Vancouver because they were running out of Visas for their workers in the U.S.

People are scared of the “I” word - how do we convince Congress and Americans that the country that attracts the world’s best, brightest and hardest working immigrants will lead the global economy? The system is currently broken and we need a comprehensive solution. Three ideas for reform:

1. Green cards for graduates with advanced degrees
2. Visas for entrepreneurs who start new companies - this is a country of start-ups
3. Streamline the Visa process (it is now very expensive and time consuming)

For more information on Robert’s presentation, go to www.renewoureconomy.org/neweconomy

Panel Discussion

We had representatives from the Park City Chamber of Commerce, Deer Valley Resort, Park City Mountain Resort and Canyons Resort take part in a panel discussion on how all four entities collaborate to market the area and make it a success. Accessibility is a key reason to Park City’s success, along with

raised awareness from the Olympics. Park City is a 30-minute drive to the airport. Tim from Canyons referred to it as the “rising tide theory” - seven resorts so close to each other and three all in one area. Canyons is the newest product that is a growing resort with lots of improvements. Deer Valley has the Montage and St. Regis - two openings of huge hotels. But visitation is increasing, these hotels are not putting others out of business. Despite success, airlines do not cooperate, nor collaborate. Delta cutting back on seats is an example.

There are ongoing discussions about interconnectivity between the three resorts. They have the ability, but details need to be worked out. Deer Valley, for example, limits the number of their daily skiers, which would have an impact on allowing skiers from the other resorts to ski their terrain.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.