

Colorado Association of Ski Towns
March 8, 2007

Meeting Minutes

The Following were in attendance:

Sally Sparhawk	Snowmass Village	Gary Hill	Park City
Paul Strong	Steamboat Springs	Bret Howsor	Park City
Alan Lanning	Steamboat Springs	Bernie Zurbriggen	Frisco
Kethleen Kennedy	Frisco	Ernie Blake	Breckenridge
Michael Penny	Frisco	Tim Gagen	Breckenridge
John Younger	Dillon	John Pryor	Telluride
Bill Pinkham	Estes Park	Williams Buck	Mt Crested Butte
Joe Fitzpatrick	Mt. Crested Butte	Doug Mercatoris	Snowmass Village
Jim Stevens	Nederland	Laura Farris	Nederland
Alan Bernholtz	Crested Butte	Andrea Benda	Telluride
Frank Bell	Telluride	Russ Forrest	Snowmass Village
Jim Peterson	Grand Lake	Shane Hale	Grand Lake
Kathy Lewis	Grand Lake	Dave Ferrill	Denver
Rachel Richards	Pitkin	Kevin Batchelder	Silverthorne

11:35 a.m. Call to Order by President John Pryor

Approval of Minutes

Members noted that minutes had not been distributed. President John Pryor asked that approval be moved to the next business meeting.

Legislative Discussion:

Members discussed topics to be covered with Mayor Hickenlooper and Governor Ritter including Forest Health, Climate Change, Affordable Housing, Transportation and Cooperation Collaboration.

Benchmarking:

Gary Hill & Brett Howsor were present from Park City to update the Benchmarking Project Phase I including Demographic and Financial baseline data has been completed for the participating communities. They are now ready for Phase II and are looking for feedback as to what factors they should be focusing on for further comparison. It was suggested that the participating communities try and meet as a group prior to future CAST meetings to further this project.

Mayor Hickenlooper:

Mayor's comments focused on cooperation and collaboration. He believed Denver benefits greatly from the attractiveness of the rest of the state particularly the Ski Areas and Towns so collaboration only makes sense from Water issues to Transportation issues like I-70

Rob Perlman, Colorado Ski Country:

Mr. Perlman gave an update of the state of the ski season. Early season was very strong ahead of last year. There had been some slowing in December and January related to front-range weather problems. Key focus for CSCUSA is Colorado Tourism office, I-70 congestion and support of their member ski areas.

Governor Ritter:

Governor Ritter's comments focused on the following areas: Climate Change, I-70 and overall transportation funding, affordable housing and work force issues and immigration. He also responded to questions on Forest Health, Water, and severance tax.

Adjournment:

There was a motion and 2nd to adjourn the meeting after a reminder from President Pryor of our breakfast meeting tomorrow morning where our guests would be Senate President Joan Fitzgerald, DOLA Director Susan Kirkpatrick and Stephan Saunders from the Rocky Mountain Climate Organization.