



June 2018

The Town of Red Cliff

Recent Events

Clean Up Day:

Town Clean Up Day was successful once again this year. It seems that the volume collected from public spaces gets less and less each year. All in all, a good sign!

Wildfire Mitigation:

In partnership with ERFPD and with funding from a FACO grant, we held a Wildfire Mitigation Event the first weekend in June. Firefighters and volunteers cleared brush from around and within the cemetery. We also dropped several standing dead trees and stacked that wood for folks to take. Prevailing winds through town make that area the most likely path a fire would take and, therefore, is our first priority in creating a defensible barrier. To that end, we have determined to cease any and all dumping at the old "slash pile" above the cemetery. It would be counterproductive to clear out fuel and then just pile it up a few hundred yards away. Please respect this ban and don't add to the pile.

Steep Creek:

Unfortunately, due to low stream flows, the GoPro Mountain Games Steep Creek event was moved from our Homestake Creek down to Dowd Chute in Minturn. Though we were greatly disappointed, we have been assured that the plan is to return the event to our neck of the woods next year.

Ongoing and Upcoming Events

Summer Lunch Program:

Disappointed as we were by InteGreat's decision to no longer host the summer lunch program in Red Cliff, Barb and Suzanne picked up the torch and are running with it. Using Community Fund resources, free lunch and activities are available to all kids every Wednesday from 11.30am-1.30pm at Town Hall all summer long.

Creative Industries Day & Cemetery Tour:

Calling all local artists, jewelry makers, painters, metal workers, wood workers, glass blowers, crafters, sketchers stitchers and amateur creators! Start stock-piling your creations ready for this first annual event. Saturday, August 18th, Red Cliff will be showcasing its talented artists. Please contact the town office for more information

Fire Danger

Fire danger has been in the forefront of many of our minds as we watch several wildfires burn across the state. The Town follows the guidance of the Eagle County Sheriff's Department and ERFPD when it comes to fire restrictions.



Though we are currently under no fire restrictions, there have been several Red Flag Warning Days. Basically, it's not a good idea to have any fires. Please be responsible and cognizant of the risks.

Another reminder, camping is prohibited on Town property. Please educate yourselves on where Town property ends and Forest Service begins.

P&Z Commission

The newly appointed Planning and Zoning Commission is continuing its good work. We are now down to just one Board member on that Commission. We would like the Commission to be comprised of residents other than Board members. If you are interested in the final available seat, please contact the town office.

P&Z meetings are held on an as needed basis on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7pm.

Roads & Bridges & Money

As I have mentioned in earlier newsletters, the Town has been developing a Downtown Development plan utilizing available grant funds. The goal is to create a plan that can be easily replicated throughout town. This will give us the groundwork we need to apply for funding for the implementation of the projects.

This is a huge undertaking. We have been advised time and time again to include as much as possible when digging up a street so that we don't waste money having to redo steps. Though this makes great sense, it means that there could be a considerably longer wait before a shovel hits the ground.

I understand the frustration with potholes and crumbling asphalt all over town. It is bad for vehicle traffic and potentially treacherous for our young people riding bicycles around town.

Unfortunately, when it comes to available grant funding, people like to provide money for what they think of as "sexy" projects like parks and playgrounds. Infrastructure funding is much harder to come by. We have been attempting to build our road & bridge budget to keep pace and plan ahead, but we are just barely getting there. We frequently reach out to Eagle County for assistance with material to fill potholes and they rarely say no to our requests.

We all would like nice new streets or even decent sized repairs. The money just isn't there at the moment but rest assured, we see those potholes too and we are doing everything we can to work towards those new streets while still keeping what we have in working order.

Community Fund

The Community Fund now has an official Board. Thank you to Barb, Mara, Erin, Danielle and Melissa who have enthusiastically joined the cause.

Each member has selected certain areas of our mission and are dedicating themselves to improving our efforts.

Be sure to check out the Community Fund's new Facebook page for updates on events and causes.

Meetings & Presentations

There are several government meetings and seminars this summer that staff and trustees will be attending. It would

be nice if we could get everything we needed done without ever having to leave.

I will be presenting alongside a grad student from CU at the Mountain Connect conference this month. We will be talking about the broadband project and providing insights for other municipalities attempting to connect their communities to broadband. The up-side to this, besides some good press for Red Cliff, is that industry experts who could further assist us in being a "smart" community will be attending.

The CML conference is also this month in Vail. CML is an advocacy group who represents the interests of towns and cities at the state capitol. The conference has been an invaluable tool for us to be heard and seek assistance in the past. I am hoping to have some great "streets and sidewalks" talks this year.

I will be attending another planning meeting in anticipation of Lt. Gov. Donna Lynne's attendance at July's Mayors/Managers Meeting to discuss our astronomical healthcare costs. Representatives from all over the county have been active in developing strategies and solutions and I am hopeful that we can make some progress.

The MOST IMPORTANT MEETINGS OF ALL....

Town of Red Cliff Board of Trustees Meetings!!! I want to extend another invitation to attend our town meetings. We want to hear from you and want you to participate in your government. Meetings are 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm.

New Folks

I have heard through the grapevine that we have some new people in town, but I have yet to meet them. Please don't be alarmed when I show up on your doorstep, I am friendly and just want an opportunity to welcome you to our community.

Happy Birthday!

Still no June babies in Red Cliff. October must lack romance!

Honored to serve,

Mayor Anuschka Bales