**Friends of Monument Preserve**

**P.O. Box 634**

**Monument, CO 80132-1216**

**Board and Members Meeting**

**October 9, 2018**

**I.** **Call to Order and Attendance:** The Board meeting of the FOMP began at 7:00 p.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church, 17750 Knollwood, Monument. Members present were Bill Normile, president; Bill Benson, vice president; Brian Mullin, communications director; and Marianne LaRivee, secretary; as well as Jon Nordby and Hermann Spielkamp, members at large. Judy Benson, Larry Bryant, Nancy Spielkamp, Heidi McClure, Jerry Woerdeman, Wendy Anderson, and 5 later arrivals were also in attendance.

**II. Issues:**

**A. 5th Board Member:** Brian Mullin has been serving a key, although informal, role as communications director, so the Board voted to add him as an official member in accordance with para 5.1 of the FOMP Bylaws. He was voted into office and now serves as Director of Communications.

**B. Meeting Venue**: After investigating a number of possible meeting venues, only one was available, so the Board will hold monthly meetings at Trinity Lutheran Church in Monument. While the church does not charge for its meeting rooms, the Board voted to make a one-time donation of $250 for use of the room.

**C. USFS Personnel Change:** Colleen Bergmanis, USFS Recreation Planner, is being transferred, with no replacement named. While we will continue to work with Oscar Martinez, District Ranger, plans for the fence, the trailhead sign, and involvement with USFS missions are uncertain.

**D. FOMP Shirts:** Bill Normile found several FOMP shirts from past years, and proposed that we print more. Jon Nordby suggested educational designs with maintenance tips, trail etiquette, etc. We can award them to volunteers, sell them to supporters, and use them to garner additional support and buy-in for FOMP missions and projects.

**E. Vice President Update:** Bill Benson reported that we had two successful Boy Scout projects this summer: the hillside between the pond and Mt Herman Road, and water bars at the entrance to the Fire Center. We are open to other projects for next summer.

**F. Limbaugh Canyon Parking Problems:** Trails to Limbaugh Canyon, recently restored to USFS through a land swap, have not been formalized, and hikers have received tickets from Palmer Lake for parking in neighborhoods adjacent to the newly acquired land. FOMP voted not to assume responsibility for solving this problem as USFS formalizes its boundaries, although we will gladly develop new trails once ownership has been established.

**G. Trail Names:** Several members met recently to normalize and formalize trail names, attempting to select those which represent the area, history, and builders of the trails. Art Fuellenbach, Brian Mullin, Jon Nordby, and Bill and Judy Benson are addressing this issue, which will be a major winter project.

**H. Birdhouses:** Hermann Spielkamp reported that he and the local 4-H chapter built and installed 8 new birdhouses. We now have a total of 26 throughout the preserve.

**I. Aggressive Dogs:** Several community members have experienced dogs attacking other dogs or horses, and asked whether FOMP can establish a leash law in the preserve. We explained that such a decision is made by USFS, not FOMP. Another attendee recommended that hikers and horse owners report all aggressive dog activity to the county. We will consider a sign which encourages responsible dog ownership and explains the process of reporting aggressive dog behavior.

**III. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.