

Friends of Monument Preserve (FOMP) Board Meeting 12/26/2025 Notes

- Attendees: Brain Mullin-President
Ken Baker-Vice President
Cindy Thrush- Secretary
Donna Wood-Treasurer
Bill Benson-Trail Boss
Marianne Larivee-at Large Board Member
Dave Larivee
- Treasurer Report:
Savings Account Balance: \$19,515.07 with no activity last year except monthly interest.
Checking Account Balance: \$3,743.82 – activity included weed signs expenses and then reimbursement. A paper bank statement is being sent monthly to an address in Colorado Springs and we do not know whose address it is. We are being charged a \$5 monthly fee for this statement and we want to only have electronic statements. However, Air Academy Credit Union needs our Board meeting minutes verifying who is on the Board and their positions. These meeting minutes provide that documentation to make the needed changes to the account. The current Board members on the account are Ken and Donna. The mailing address for FOMP is PO Box 634, Monument, CO 80132.
- We will be executing our Volunteer Agreement with the United States Forest Service (USFS) in the next few months. This was delayed due to the extended Government Shutdown.
- April 10th Donna is presenting our weed signage project to the Tri-Lakes Women's Club (TLWC) who provided the grant funding for the project. Donna is also scheduling a hike in the Preserve to view the signs this spring with the TLWC and inviting the weed control staff at the County and USFS. It was proposed to do a press release for this event as well.
- Donna is also looking into the possibility of using goats to help with the noxious weed problem at the Preserve. Donna suggested that our weed pulling projects next year be focused on a 2 -foot swath on each side of trails.
- The Board discussed working out a strategy to try and increase the number of volunteers that participate in the monthly trail nights, focusing on mountain biking groups and young volunteers. Brian will reach out to several mountain biking clubs and Ken will look into high schools that have biking teams.
- We need to place a FOMP sign at the main Mt Herman Trailhead on the kiosk publicizing the trail work nights and providing our website address for those people looking for additional information. Donna's son who provided the graphics for the stickers will draft a sign. Brian will look into getting a QR code to place on the sign as well.
- Dave reported that Team Rubicon has been cutting some trees and making debris piles from one of the high intensity burn areas ("tree row"). The piles will be burned at some point when the weather allows.
- Marianne mentioned that she had planted the wildflower seed mix that FOMP purchased last year in some of the burn pile areas and reported that she did see some flowers. The Board approved purchasing more wildflower seed mix.
- Discussed removing the graffiti from the ruins near the Memorial Grove. The USFS Archaeologist and District Ranger gave approval for FOMP to clean the graffiti using a product called Elephant-snot which they will provide and we can pick up at the Woodland Park Work Center. A time needs to be scheduled with Jake. It is not known if water is needed in the removal process.

- Discussed having a work plan for FOMP activities. Bill will start putting together a plan for trail work priorities for 2026. The Board discussed having a planning meeting for 2026 activities in late Feb or March.
- There is a sign down by the Monument Rock parking area. Brian will send a picture to the USFS.