



## **CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**May 16, 2024 at 5:00 PM  
0110 Whispering Pines Circle, Blue River, CO**

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### **AGENDA**

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**The public is welcome to attend the meeting either in person or via Zoom.**

**The Zoom link is available on the Town website:**

**<https://townofblueriver.colorado.gov/citizen-advisory-committee>**

**Please note that seating at Town Hall is limited.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. Minutes from March 21, 2024**

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

**B. Priority Survey Review**

**V. ADJOURN**

**NEXT MEETING -**

**June 20, 2024**



## CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM  
0110 Whispering Pines Circle, Blue River, CO

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### MINUTES

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The public is welcome to attend the meeting either in person or via Zoom.

The Zoom link is available on the Town website:

<https://townofblueriver.colorado.gov/citizen-advisory-committee>

Please note that seating at Town Hall is limited.

#### I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Vice Chair Trevor Kraus

Steve Kucera

Bruce Queen

Jodie Wiley

Also present: Town Manager Michelle Eddy; Board Liaison Trustee Kelly Finley.

#### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes from February 15, 2024

Motion made by Vice Chair Kraus, Seconded by Kucera to approve the minutes of February 2024. Voting Yea: Vice Chair Kraus, Kucera, Queen, Wiley. Motion passed unanimously.

#### III. NEW BUSINESS

B. Review of Citizen Survey and Provide Board of Trustees Recommendations

The Committee reviewed the citizen survey results. Manager Eddy noted there were 187 responses. One response was submitted by a former resident. Additionally, 28 residents

answered the survey twice or at least under the same name/email address leaving 158 unique validated individuals answering.

Discussion of what the Trustees were looking for. Suggestion to develop an executive summary of what was found and responses. Discussion on short-term rentals in that the code enforcement is more of the focus and not necessarily a priority as a topic.

Discussion that the priorities ranked are roads, Tarn and wildfire mitigation and to include all of the comments as an appendix. Discussion to have the executive summary with the appendices and not try to filter or interpret but leave for the Trustees to review.

Decision to spend the next month reviewing and deep diving into each priority, placing them in order and then developing a recommendation with action items.

Decision to have each committee member take a section and provide a summary:

Kraus: Tarn

Kucera: Wildfire

Queen: Safety/Code

Wiley: Roads

Finley: STR

C. 2024 Town of Blue River Event Calendar

A tentative calendar of events was reviewed.

**IV. ADJOURN**

Motion made by Wiley, Seconded by Queen to adjourn at 6:37 p.m.

Voting Yea: Vice Chair Kraus, Kucera, Queen, Wiley. Motion passed unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING -**

April's meeting will be moved to Thursday, April 25th.

### Constant Contact Survey Results

Campaign Name: Untitled Survey Page Created 2024/02/19, 11:35:20 AM MST

Survey Starts: 588

Survey Submits: 187

Export Date: 03/19/2024 02:58 PM

OPEN QUESTION

Blue River Address

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

187 Response(s)

OPEN QUESTION

Email

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

187 Response(s)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Roads (maintenance, rights and easements)

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
High			109	59%
Medium			57	30%
Low			18	9%
<b>Total Responses</b>			<b>184</b>	<b>100%</b>

OPEN QUESTION

Comments

What does "Roads" mean? Before the Town spends any time/money on "roads" it MUST determine the legal rights and right-of-way boundaries on existing roads. Continued creeping of road maintenance summer/winter is causing damage to private property.

BOT incumbents & candidates at the 3/7/24 Forum all agreed to "site-specific" management guidelines that address diverse neighborhoods & environmental characteristics." Instead of bureaucracy, property owners & contractor(s) should make decisions.

As long as the pot holes and ruts are not as deep as the Grand Canyon that rattle my car to pieces I am happy. The snow removal is not as efficient as it has been in the past.

91 Response(s)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

2. Short-term Rentals

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
High			66	36%
Medium			58	31%
Low			59	32%
<b>Total Responses</b>			<b>183</b>	<b>100%</b>

OPEN QUESTION

Comments

Before making any STR decisions based on "the court of public opinion", the Town needs to objectively define the issues/concerns and focus on a path forward that follows the Mission Statement "... conserving our natural residential environment."

Many voting residents live here because of what is in the Mission Statement. STRs have contributed significantly to the erosion of the M.S. Instead of community-damaging Town government STR policies, follow community-caring policies, i.e. fewer STRs.

I am not a fan of STR...I like our nice quiet local neighborhood. The STR put a lot of wear on our resources. There should be a limit on nights occupancy per year and it needs to be managed.

107 Response(s)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

3. Tarn Management and Use Trails

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
High			99	53%
Medium			66	35%
Low			19	10%
<b>Total Responses</b>			<b>184</b>	<b>100%</b>

OPEN QUESTION

Comments

Topic is vague/nebulous. The Town doesn't own the water surface nor shoreline. Before spending time/money on this or anything related to open space/trails, engage landowners and informed neighbors, and not focus on "the court of public opinion".

I agree with the "Blue River Open Space & Trails Master Plan" recommendation: "...Goose Pasture Tarn is a relatively undisturbed wetland/riparian complex... and is important wildlife/waterfowl habitat. Do not encourage use nor future trail development..."

I like to be able to enjoy our trails and natural resources our neighborhood offers. I would like to see a safe corridor for us to get to town. Someone is going to get killed riding their bike on the highway. Tarn for locals only. Winter parking

90 Response(s)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

4. Safety Enhancement and Plans

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
High			51	28%
Medium			85	47%
Low			44	24%
<b>Total Responses</b>			<b>180</b>	<b>100%</b>

OPEN QUESTION

Comments

What does this mean? "Safety" is a high priority in anything/everything the Town does. Without a clear understanding of specific "enhancements" or "plans", the topic is too vague/nebulous to rate and give comment. Take it off the list.

Keep in mind that the best safety plans honor the environment plus honor the current infrastructure, i.e. emergency vehicles can safely travel on the current roads. Drivers of other vehicles can easily find a pull-out to allow for emergency vehicles.

I am not really sure what this means. People fined for pushing snow out onto road, trash cans management. They should not be put out the night before.

67 Response(s)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

5. Code Enforcement

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
High			60	33%
Medium			77	42%
Low			44	24%
<b>Total Responses</b>			<b>181</b>	<b>100%</b>

OPEN QUESTION

Comments

Town must adhere to rules, regulations, policy, and guidelines defined by law and the Land Use Code. Not enforcing the law is a dereliction of duties. Like "Safety", this topic is a stand-alone function and need not be on the priority list.

The Town is famous for not enforcing code. Town government is famous for including provisions in the code documents that the Town has no intention of enforcing. Existing code is enforced for some but not others. Enforce code equally for all.

Generally good presents is noted with police making rounds in the neighborhood. I do notice a lot of aggressive drivers passing inappropriately on the highway.

55 Response(s)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

6. Wildfire Mitigation

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Answer 1			102	64%
Answer 2			36	22%
Answer 3			20	12%

## OPEN QUESTION

## Comments

"Mitigation" means lessening the impact caused by wildlife. Without a clear understanding of specific "mitigation", the topic is too vague/nebulous to rate and give comment. It is a part of the "Safety" topic and need not be on the priority list.

Town government appears to justify illegal/unauthorized tree removal & wetland willows as "wildfire mitigation." Factors, such as nearness to waterways, should be considered acceptable mitigation practices. Implement acceptable mitigation practices.

Fire pits should not be allowed, especially at rental properties. Cars should be ticketed for parking on roads - this is hazardous for fire trucks. I like the fire mitigation incentives provided tree management companies.

**87 Response(s)**

## OPEN QUESTION

## 7. Please note any other priority you would like to see the Town address.

The "Survey" is poorly drafted. It does not tie in with the Town Mission Statement and does not give info on type of respondents; landowners, renters (long and short-term), full and part-time residents, visitors, etc. Topics listed are vague and nebulous, leading to too much interpretation of the issue. Many topics are actually components of the Safety topic, which is obviously a high priority. Hire a consultant to conduct an appropriate "survey" which will give meaningful actionable results.

--All policies & practices need to be connected to the Mission Statement, which is currently not happening.

--There is no mention of the environment in these BOT priorities. FYI- On a 2019 Citizen Survey, 85.4% of the respondents marked "yes" to supporting "conservation efforts and policy development." Respondents were in favor of conserving the natural day and night environment.

--Promote best stewardship practices that align with the Mission Statement: enhancing the quality of life for all.

The town needs to have a professional put a survey together, or at a minimum give the CAC ample opportunity to craft a thoughtful survey. This survey doesn't warrant response because it just appears to be looking to rank priorities. The question about wildfire makes no sense because it doesn't even list high vs low. Please do better.

**101 Response(s)**