

## New Castle Climate & Environment Commission Minutes for October 17, 2024

**Attendees: Commissioner Nancy Barnes, Commissioner Tom Elder, Commissioner Bruce Leland, Commissioner Sharon Morris, Commissioner Myrna Candriea (online), Commissioner Kendall Bakick**

**Commissioner Elder called the meeting to order (4:05)**

### **Old Business**

- Commissioner Morris accepted the role of Vice Chair

### **Recap Elemental Film Screening**

- Film was powerful, discussion after was engaging
- Partnership between the Library and the Commission went well, thanks to Commissioner Barnes for her work on this program.
- Small crowd (14) on Saturday afternoon in October; 4 commissioners attended; perhaps show it again in the Winter (after the holidays - end of Feb or March)
- Promotion - Library put up posters, New Castle town posted it to Facebook,
- Next time, get influencers (social media locals) to promote it (Janine High, etc.)
- Plan to have a panel of experts after the movie - as part of the event (Paul Smith - fire inspector)

### **Commission year-end purchases**

- Commissioner Leland suggested that we buy a new banner.
  - **Motion:** Commissioner Elder moved that we purchase the banner. Commissioner Barnes seconded. Passed unanimously.
- We have less funds this coming year (\$1,000 rather than the previous \$2,000). The Commission also has the bag use bag money (roughly \$17,000)
- T-shirts - print more "Be Earthwise New Castle - Authentically Colorado" - order for sale (and possibly use an [online platform](#)) -
  - **Action Items:** Commissioner Morris will work with Mindy and Kelly (rec center) to purchase t-shirt - Commissioner Leland will find out where and how to get the artwork for the t-shirts (adult and kid sizes)
- Seed packets (to pass out at the parade) - native wildflowers, bee friendly pollinators -
  - **Action Items:** Commissioner Leland will find out about the seeds; Commissioner Candriea will find out where the seed packets have come from.

## **2025 Commission Budget**

### Budget Recommendation for Bag Fee Funds

- \$8,000 - Business rebates for sustainability or environmentally friendly projects - \$500 - 800 per business
- \$5,000 - Grants up to \$500 to groups to perform sustainability projects (roll off trash or xeriscaping in open space)
- \$2,000 Purchase degradable plastic doggy bags for town park bag dispensers (Request from New Castle Recreation department)
- \$750 - Plastic containers for chili cook-off (1st Friday in December) - commission members will take them to the community center kitchen to wash things
  - Possibly buy Bins for compost (Kevin), recycling, color coding? Test out a program and loan out as needed for others hosting events
- \$1,000 - Public awareness sticker or cling for public education

**Decision Item:** 2025 Commission Budget was voted on and approved unanimously.

## **2024 Upcoming Projects**

- Thanksgiving Lions Club Thanksgiving - Sat., Nov. 23 - consider volunteering for this event
- Chili Cookoff - Friday, Dec. Dec. 6 - plan to wash the reusable containers after the event

## **2025 Project Planning**

- Earth Day - New Castle Earth Day - several groups participate -
- Decision Item: Sat., April 26, 2025  
Discussion of partners - Mountain Waste, Evergreen Xeriscape, Fire Department, E-car, Garfield Co weed program, CSU extension, Garden Club, Lions, Watershed Council, Generation Wild - Go Co, Bear Aware & Wildlife - in Burning Mountain Park (or City Market) - partner with Drifters for live music, local sponsors (Kevin's coffee shop)

## **September 19, 2024 minutes -**

**Motion:** Commissioner Morris moved to approve the 9/19 meeting minutes with the clerical changes, Commissioner Bakick seconded - Approved Unanimously

## **New Business/Future Agenda Items**

- **New Castle Fire Plan** - Arrange to promote the fire plan for the community - Can we get an update on what the town does to notify community members of evacuation, plans, etc.? Can the town/commission do a dry run evaluation? Print out single sheet map of new castle with evacuation.

- **Website content** - next meeting - xeriscaping, fire, recycling, pollinators, weeds

Next meeting - Nov. 21 - 4:00

**Action Item:** Commissioner Elder will reach out to Commissioner Anglemyer and get a letter of resignation as needed.

Consider an ambassador's program for volunteer opportunities.

**Motion:** Commissioner Candriea made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Commissioner Sharon Morris

  
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Commission Chair Tom Elder