

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
EAGLE RANCH ASSOCIATION
AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE

A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Eagle Ranch Association (the “Association”), and the Wildlife Committee (the “Committee”) was held on March 22, 2023, at the Eagle Ranch Office, 1143 Capitol Street, Eagle, CO 81631, or via video/teleconference.

Directors Present:

Liz Adams, Residential Director
Jamie Harrison, Residential Director
Steve Lindstrom, Commercial Director

Committee Members Present:

Brian Lieberman, Town of Eagle
Brian Wodrich, Colorado Parks & Wildlife
Derek Rose, Eagle Ranch

Owners present:

Debra Dieter

Others Present:

Dave Crawford, East West Hospitality (“EWH”) Director of Operations
Nick Richards, Community Manager, Eagle Ranch
Shelley Bellm, EWH Assistant Community Manager, Eagle Ranch

The order of business was as follows:

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. MST.
2. Purpose. Steve Lindstrom introduced the purpose of the joint meeting between members of the Executive Board and members of the Wildlife Committee. The meeting today is intended for the Executive Board to gain a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the Wildlife Committee, discuss the appointment and terms of members of the Committee, and to see what can be done to improve the interactions between Eagle Ranch owners, dogs, and local wildlife.
3. Organization. The Committee is made up of an employee/representative of the Town of Eagle, an employee/representative of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and three members of the Eagle Ranch Association. Committee members are appointed by the Executive Board. It is recommended that the committee discuss terms for ERA members to ensure all terms do not expire on the same date.

Shelley Bellm was nominated by Jamie Harrison for the position of Wildlife Committee Coordinator, members of the committee agreed to this nomination. This position will manage all committee meetings, agendas, minutes, and act as a liaison between the Executive Board and the Wildlife Committee. Position will assist the Committee with any projects, proposals and communications deemed necessary. The pay for this position will be discussed at an upcoming Committee meeting.

Committee members agreed that a schedule of meetings should be established. This item will be added to an upcoming Committee meeting.

4. Wildlife Interaction. Brian Lieberman provided an overview of enforcement jurisdiction within Eagle Ranch. The Town of Eagle contracts with Eagle County Animal Control for their animal control services and Brian Wodrich has enforcement authority granted to him as an officer of the State of Colorado. An overview of the current dog park and Town open space was reviewed along with the trail system through Eagle Ranch and the Metro District was provided.

Ownership and maintenance responsibilities are as follows:

- Common Space – Town of Eagle, Metro District, & Eagle Ranch Association, location is determining factor.
- Open Space & Trails – Town of Eagle
- Paved paths – Town of Eagle, maintained by Eagle Ranch Association
- Dog Park – Town of Eagle
- Golf Course Pathways – Metro District & Eagle Ranch Association

Dog Park is within the Town of Eagle's ownership and maintenance responsibilities. Brian L. is open to discussions concerning parking along streets. Improvements to park would require approval from the Town of Eagle. This parcel does not have any conservation easements placed on it that would prevent any additional improvements. A partnership, such as the one with Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance, with the Association and the Town would help improvements moving forward.

Brian W. summarized that more problems are arising from dogs harassing of wildlife than human harassment. He has fielded a significant number of complaints and believes that ongoing enforcement is key to deterring behavior. Many dog owners are great and follow the leash-law rules established. He has run into many homeowners who have a sense of entitlement where the dog owner doesn't believe their dog is doing anything wrong or they can do what they want. An increase in leash-law signage might help.

Areas of concern include the Pavilion Park, Hay Meadow development area, Wetlands, Johnsons, Haymaker trail (1st loop). The installation of the signs and gate at the Arroyo trail head helped interaction with wildlife. CPW has seed patterns changing due to disturbances, either direct or development, as well as degrading habitat. Heaviest harassment is coming from within the Ranch during winter months (October-April).

Dave Crawford asked if our current dog park is too small and should we consider another? With the new development over by the ice rink, the building going on in Eagle Ranch, and the building at the entrance of Eagle ranch, around 600 plus homeowners we are adding, is current dog park too small to handle this population? While we understand that Brian W. prefers not to fence in the park, when the elk are in the park people go elsewhere. Are we displacing the harassment because people can't use the park?

Deb Dieter addressed the Board and Committee by stating that people don't know the rules. Eagle Ranch owners are not the only users of these trails and parks. We do a good job informing our owners, but people from outside the ranch may not understand the rules and regulations. Not all dogs do well in dog parks and need elsewhere to go, where they can also benefit from the off-leash opportunities. Parking at the park needs to improve; there are holes all over the park and people don't want their pet to get injured; we need fencing improvements as some dogs need that demarcation/boundary not to cross.

Jamie Harrison questioned the need for a dog park with fencing and if the current park is just in the wrong location. Brian W. stated that some fencing is acceptable as it does provide some boundary and he would prefer not to have the location moved as it would create another area of displacement. Jamie also stated that he understands that some of this displacement is coming from new homes and development. He would like to see a significant education program, enforcement with consequence as without consequences there will be more conflicts.

5. Future Considerations.

- Dog Park Improvements
 - Split rail fence no taller than 42" to create clear boundary but not all the way around as this is a central artery for migration.
 - Parking improvements along roadway.
 - More parks needed.
 - Ground improvements to reduce ground squirrel holes.
- Education campaign
 - Interpretive signs along paths
 - Website & email campaigns (Respect the Wild)
 - License insert when registering pet.
 - Brian W. willing to speak at event(s)
- Enforcement opportunities
 - Additional staff – Town of Eagle wildlife officer

6. Next Steps.

- Document best practices for management plan.
- Map potential projects
- Schedule Wildlife Committee Meetings
- Update to Executive Board May 17, 2023

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:23p.m. MDT.