

Boulder Transition Advisory Committee (BTAC)  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, April 7, 2016

1. BTAC regular meeting was held at the Boulder City Hall on April 7, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am by BTAC Chair, Drew Dawson and followed by introductions of the 17 persons in attendance.
2. A motion to approve the March minutes was made by Sally B., seconded by Sarah L. and passed.
3. There was considerable discussion on the MDC-related issues:
  - a. Commissioner Mullen said a response to the Commission's request to the State for an Impact Statement has supposedly been sent to the Commission; however, it has not been yet been received. The state is re-sending. Apparently, there are some differences on the interpretation of when the Impact Statement is to be developed. Micky Z. said JLDS has requested some informal proposal on the costs of doing our own local Impact Statement assessments. She reported three proposals have been received ranging in price from \$9500 to \$36,000 (stand corrected, \$38,000). Micky reported on potential funding for the development of a Master Plan for Boulder which would contain much of the same information (and more) as an economic impact statement. Drew D. reiterated the support and concept of an independent analysis. A motion was made to support the economic analysis, and to seek grant funding, by Terry M. and seconded by Erika M. Motion Carried.
  - b. The next MDC Transition Committee meeting is scheduled for April 27. BTAC Chair, Drew D., will provide the committee with updates regarding Study Circles/Action Forum and express the BTAC's concern for both the clients of MDC and its employees. In addition, Drew D. will communicate to the Committee that Boulder community cares about these clients and it matters to BTAC and the community where they are placed.
  - c. Drew D. discussed his meeting with Richard Opper which included an overview of BTAC activities, the study circles process, and the concern for both clients and workforce. Richard O. stated they are working on workforce issues but no details are available. They will be shared with the BTAC after they are discussed with the union. There was some discussion on the uses of the property, but it is ongoing that relate to the deed restrictions; this is currently undergoing legal review. The goal of Richard O. and Drew D.'s discussion is to keep open lines of communication between BTAC and DPHHS. Feedback from Brent Y., MDS Union President, stated there are 30 residents in cottages, 11 in ASU with 4 fewer at the end of April. Benchmark is slated to come and take the others by end of May leaving ten clients on the property. Drew D. stressed that BTAC needs official information on the MDC ongoing status and is discussing getting an MDC management representative as part of the BTAC to keep the community informed.
4. Discussion on MDC employees and businesses impacted is as follows:
  - a. Terry M. reported continually looking for employees and management to attend BTAC.
  - b. Support from BTAC for the employees, clients and businesses can be more focused once an Impact Statement or Master Plan is completed. Terry M. said following getting the word out to MDC is important and the BTAC group can assist with communications. Sally B. added that the community needs to be informed that an impact statement needs to happen. Brent Y. said he would be happy to help disseminate information to MDC. There is

concern about the dates; good information must be provided so those impacted can plan accordingly.

5. Community economy and well-being:
  - a. Micky Z. - Making Boulder's Future Bright upcoming Action Forum on April 18 is at the Jefferson High School gymnasium from 7-9. Everyone is encouraged to attend this event whether they were apart of study circles or not. Good discussion is expected from the study circles. Sabrina S. added a comment from her study circle group discussing the retirement population and reaching out to those who are in there 50's who may be looking to retire in the Boulder community.
  - b. Tom H. updated on the Rest stop stating a feasibility study is underway.
  - c. Tom H. updated on South Campus and stated a Preliminary Architect Report was advertised for Building 6 on Friday, April 1.
  - d. Tom H. updated on the Pipestone Trails stating a second survey analysis regarding who is using the trails system will take place sometime this spring.
  - e. Tom H. updated that Whitehall has validated a gigabyte community and Boulder has similar opportunity. Next steps for Boulder area will depend on its priority in the Action Plan.
6. Information provided from area leaders and organizations:
  - a. Boulder Chamber of Commerce: Sarah indicated the wrap up of the annual membership drive. Boulder town phone books are finalized and should be available around the first part of May. The event season starts in June and goes through September. The Chamber is an event driven organization and is approaching their busy season.
  - b. Boulder Schools – Tim discussed Jefferson schools as being a Graduation Matters Community. There is a lot of positive energy within the schools. Tim stated he believes schools are the heart of Small Town America. **Terry M. acknowledged that Tim received the Skills USA of Montana award.**
  - a. City of Boulder – no report
  - b. Faith Group Support – no report
  - c. Other – Erika reported the Elkhorn Community Foundation is preparing for grant proposals in May.
7. Next meeting is scheduled for May 5 at 8 am at Boulder City Hall.
8. Terry M. moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Sarah at 9:00 a.m.