



CITY OF CAÑON CITY

City Council

City Council Chambers
128 Main St., Cañon City, CO 81212
(719) 269-9011 • www.canoncity.org

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 5, 2023
4:00 p.m.

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER: Council Chambers**
- 2. ROLL CALL: COUNCIL MEMBERS DENNEHY, SCHMISSEUR, B. SMITH, STEIN, TRACY, WORTHINGTON
MAYOR PRO TEM HAMRICK, MAYOR SMITH.**
- 3. DISCUSSION:**
 - A. Red Canyon Park Committee Interviews**
- 4. ADJOURN:**

Posted pursuant to code on Friday, August 25, 2023.
Cindy Foster Owens, City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 6, SERIES OF 2023

TITLE: ESTABLISHING THE RED CANYON PARK TRAILS COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the importance of our City and Mountain Parks including recreation, health and wellness, and activation;

WHEREAS, the City understand the desires of the community to further explore additional non-motorized trail offerings at Red Canyon Mountain Park; and,

WHEREAS, the City desires that the community work with the City to explore options, develop concepts, and identify priorities for Red Canyon Mountain Park.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CAÑON CITY:

1. The City of Cañon City hereby establishes the Red Canyon Park Trails Committee (the "Committee") to review, evaluate, and make recommendations concerning trail development within Red Canyon Mountain Park.
2. The Committee shall conduct work as directed by the City Council and is not authorized to spend any City funds, without prior approval of Council.
3. The main objectives of the Committee shall be as follows:
 - a. Review and understand the existing park history. Including its usage, and the existing amenities/features that are available within Red Canyon Mountain Park.
 - b. Identify the targeted users of the proposed trail and review the needs that group will require for a successful trail development.
 - c. Prioritize features within Red Canyon Park that should be highlighted with the development of a proposed trail network.
 - d. Meet individually with specific project stakeholders and assist in conducting broad public outreach to gain additional insight into the project and help advise the outcomes.
 - e. Assist the Parks Department Trail Staff in the development of conceptual plans/costs for a trail network that meet the objectives of the Committee and the goals of the City
 - f. Solicit public feedback on the conceptual plan/cost and refine/revise the plan as necessary.
 - g. Assist in identifying and securing funding for the implementation of the project plan.

- h. Present a finalized plan for trails within Red Canyon Park to the City Council
4. The Committee will consist of up to five (5) members appointed by the City Council. This committee will be chosen by City Council through an application, interview process and chaired by a City Council Member, designated by the City Council. The members of the committee will be composed of three (3) Fremont County residents of which at least one (1) must be a City Resident ensuring a balanced representation of Red Canyon user groups, and two (2) Cañon City Council Members. The Parks Director, or their appointed representative, shall serve as the staff liaison for the Committee.
 5. The Committee shall meet monthly, or at an increased or decreased period as advised by the members of the Committee.
 6. City Council retains authority over the Committee and may amend this Resolution at any time, including to dissolve the Committee. City Council may also remove any appointed member at any time with or without cause.

Dated this 17th day of April, 2023.

Ashley Smith, Mayor

Cindy Foster Owens, CMC, City Clerk
City of Cañon City

July 10, 2023

Dear City Council,

I'm writing to you to express my interest in and qualifications for joining the Red Canyon Trail Committee in Canon City, Colorado. I have lived here in Canon City since June of 2018. I was born in Gunnison, Colorado, and have lived in Colorado all my life. I enjoy living here in Colorado because I like to get outside and do different things, such as skiing, going on walks, meeting new people and seeing the different attractions that a community offers.

Canon City is one of those places. It offers a great Riverwalk, the Royal Gorge and various trails on which I have been able to do a couple of races. Canon City is home to me now because I have been able to be involved in so many things here. I have enjoyed the races here such as the Snow Queen and the Rim-to-Rim race. Getting to see the snow covered mountains in the winter is beautiful. Canon City is a really great place to do so many things.

Before I moved here in 2018, I lived in Parker, CO, and was involved in an organization called Colorado Spina Bifida Association. I was born with Spina Bifida and became involved in the early 2000's with them as the adult activity coordinator. I helped put events together for the adults so they could get together and do something fun. I was involved with a 5k walk and rolls that was put on by the Colorado Spina Bifida Association at Washington Park in Denver. This was my first time ever doing a race when the 5k walk and rolls were put together in the early 2000's and I am still involved today and am doing the races now that they are back in person after the pandemic. It's a great organization to be a part of and that's what I like to do, is be a part of organizations to help others.

Since I like being a part of organizations to help people, I have joined two organizations that help people with disabilities get out and enjoy the great outdoors of Canon City. In 2019 I joined the Southern Colorado Running Buddies Group; they help people who can't go on the trails by themselves, and have several volunteers push riders in chariots. That's how I have been able to do the Rim-to-Rim, Snow Queen and other races. Even though I am able to push myself, I'm glad to have the Southern Colorado Running Buddies Group to help when I need it. They are a great group of people to get to know.

Then in 2021 I started following an organization on Facebook called the Lockwood Foundation. The organizer, Jeff Lockwood, started his mission in 2018 to help people with any type of disability use a trail rider chair to go on difficult trails they can't go on themselves. He helps them so they can enjoy nature like everyone else. He also climbs fourteeners every year, and has an annual event where he takes several volunteers who help him get one hiker up to the summit of Mountain Elbert in a trail rider chair. He also does the Barr Trail, Mayflower Gulch Trail and hut trips up near Leadville on Tennessee Pass. I had the opportunity to be a part of a winter hike this January in which he purchased a sit ski to use during the winter and stay one night in the cabin. These are just a few of the things the Lockwood Foundation does.

My friends and I have had the opportunity to be involved with this organization also doing the hikes in Canon City and Pueblo at Lake Pueblo. We have also become involved in a geological camp near Red Canyon Park, which the University of Kansas owns. They want to make it ADA accessible by putting two cabins on the property that will be wheelchair accessible, and also build a dining hall/classroom so they can have universal classes and field studies in the summer.

I am also a member of Fremont Adventure Recreations, so I can volunteer for different events FAR puts on. I have signed up recently to volunteer on the trails to help share about the survey that FAR and CU Boulder have put together in and around Canon City for hikers visiting Canon City.

Besides my involvement in these organizations, I started my own advocacy group, the Canon City Disability Advocates, to help people with disabilities enjoy their own community. I have continued to learn a lot about the trails here in Canon City. I believe I can be a valuable resource to the Red Canyon Trail Committee in Canon City to help make the trails universal.

Sincerely,

Sonja Baker

Cañon City Council,

I would like to submit my interest in being on the Red Canyon Parks Trails Committee. As a native of Cañon City, I would be very interested in the development of trails in Red Canyon Park.

My past experiences with trail development includes being on the Cañon City Recreation District Board from 2004-2012 and developing trails throughout John Griffin Park and the River Walk trail system. As Board President, the most rewarding part of the River Walk trail expansion was the section from 9th street west to Black Bridge. This was a difficult section to complete on a number of levels including working with CDOT on a trail underneath the 9th street bridge, dealing with a railroad right-of-way, and crossing the Arkansas river at Black Bridge. I'm particularly proud of this pedestrian bridge, as it was a major challenge by itself!

As a Fremont County Commissioner from 2013-2021, I helped with the expansion of trails throughout the Ecology Park, and was instrumental in developing erosion control for the park and trails. I was the Fremont County representative for the creation of the South Cañon trail system, which was a multi entity trails project, that proved to be very successful.

With being on both Boards of the Recreation District, and the Board of County Commissioners, I was involved with the acquisition and buildout of Pathfinder Regional Park.

I believe this would be a great project!

Thank You for your consideration,

Tim Payne

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Canon City Council
C/O Cindy Foster Owens, City Clerk
P O Box 1460
128 Main Street
Canon City CO. 81215

Dear Cindy,

I am very interested in being considered for a position on the planning committee for the trail development of Red Canyon Mountain Park.

I have been a member of Back Country Horseman since 1996. We are a volunteer equine group that helps the BLM, Forest Service, DOW and Canon City developing, and maintaining trails in Southern Colorado. I was the Projects Manager for 16 of those years, organizing and working the projects.

I would love to be a part of this project. I ride, usually from Seeps Springs trails to the Red Canyon Park, to ride my horse with friends. It is such a gorgeous area and feel happy that more trails will be developed for all to enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration.


Becky Schiola





July 10th, 2023

Cindy L Foster Owens
City of Canon City Clerk
PO Box 1460
Canon City, CO 81215-1460

RE: Red Canyon Park Committee

Dear Cindy,

I would like to be considered for nomination to the Red Canyon Park committee.

My wife and I own the property located at 7027 Garden Park Road, which is the property through which Red Canyon Park is accessed. Our western property boundary abuts the park. We purchased this land in 2018 and have since made substantial investments and improvements to the property, and plan on eventually building a residence on this site.

Since 2018, we have worked closely with Mr. Rex Brady, Mr. Jesse Young, and the Parks Department staff on issues relating to maintaining access to the park, distinguishing private property from that of the park, and have worked to improve our shared entrance as well as having personally engaged in private projects such as invasive weed mitigation and trash removal. Rex, Jesse, and others in the Parks department have always been an absolute pleasure to work with.

When we first moved to the area in 1994, Red Canyon Park and the overall Garden Park area was immediately our favorite local spot, and we consider ourselves truly blessed to own a small part of what we feel is one of the most historically and ecologically important sites in Fremont County.

My wife and I are avid outdoor enthusiasts and would love to see the park improved with environmentally responsible trails that allow both ourselves and the public to access this incredible area in a sustainable way, hopefully preventing more unsanctioned trails that could irreparably harm some of the features and rock formations in the park.

Finally, as a professional Real Estate Appraiser in Fremont County since 1999, I am uniquely qualified to ascertain potential issues relating to property values for the residents of the Garden Park area.

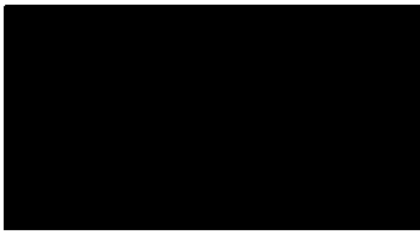
Please feel free to contact me directly if I may be of any further assistance or answer any further questions.

Best Regards,



Martin C Welch





Tuesday, July 18, 2023

Cañon City Council
c/o Cindy Foster Owens, City Clerk
PO Box 1460
128 Main Street
Cañon City, CO 81215

Dear Cañon City Council,

I am writing to express my sincere interest in becoming a part of the **Red Canyon Park Trails Committee**. As an avid hiker, hiking influencer on Instagram, long-time resident of Fremont County, and experienced graphic and user experience designer, I believe I can make a valuable contribution to the committee's mission and objectives.

First and foremost, my passion for hiking has been a driving force in my life. I have explored numerous trails across the region and have gained extensive knowledge and understanding of the natural beauty and ecological significance of Red Canyon Park. Through my Instagram account, where I have amassed a considerable following of fellow hiking enthusiasts, I have been able to share my experiences and inspire others to appreciate and respect the great outdoors.


Living in Fremont County for over a decade has provided me with a deep connection to the local community. I am familiar with the unique challenges and opportunities that arise in our area. By serving on the Red Canyon Park Trails Committee, I hope to leverage my understanding of the region to contribute to the development and maintenance of sustainable and enjoyable trail systems.

In addition to my passion for hiking and community involvement, I bring professional skills that I believe will be valuable to the committee. As a graphic designer and user experience designer, I have acquired expertise in creating visually appealing and user-friendly materials. I can assist in designing trail maps, signage, and other informational materials that will enhance visitors' experiences while ensuring their safety. Furthermore, my experience conducting user focus groups equips me with the ability to gather valuable insights from fellow hikers and community members, ensuring that their needs and preferences are considered in decision-making processes.

I am confident that my unique combination of hiking expertise, community engagement, and design skills would be a valuable asset to the **Red Canyon Park Trails Committee**. I am committed to dedicating my time and energy to the preservation, improvement, and promotion of our local trails.

Thank you for considering my application. I would be delighted to discuss my qualifications and ideas further at your convenience. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the **Red Canyon Park Trails Committee** and make a lasting impact on our beloved trails.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Lake Whedon", written over a horizontal dashed line.

Justin Lake Whedon

