

**Boulder Transition Advisory Committee (BTAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, June 2, 2016**

1. The BTAC regular meeting was held at the Boulder City Hall on June 2, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m. by Chair, Drew Dawson and followed by the self-introduction of the 20 attendees.
2. The one correction from the May minutes is to change Pipestone trails to Recreation trails. A motion to approve the May minutes (with the correction) was made by Sally B., seconded by Tim N. and passed.
3. Discussion on MDC related issues:
  - a. Dan V. provided the following update: last week an MOU was signed providing job protection for union employees. Six Boulder area homes were looked at in efforts to startup new group homes and day services. Of those six, two or three look promising. Progression on this will come at the end of fiscal year. Mr. Villa anticipated the state-operated group homes in Boulder will be open in August, 2016. An employee assistance program is available for employees who want to be able to talk to someone. One MDC unit closed last week with one more in the upcoming weeks. Dan V. continued to add he is “tapping the brakes” on unit closures in order to keep clients in their own rooms versus moving them to rooms with bunks. In anticipation of using the facilities for other state government purposes, there are ongoing conversations about the scale of fixed costs, like meals. Zac, grad student working with Dan from Missoula, will be conducting employee interviews throughout the summer and may be talking with other persons in the community. This project will provide documentation of problems or issues which arise when going through a process like this and will provide a historical perspective and record. Currently, there are four open units of the six on the campus. There was discussion between committee members and Mr. Villa about a variety of issues including the challenges with moving MDC clients to other areas and their losing contact with MDC employees and the familiarity of their MDC surroundings.
  - b. June 23 is the next MDC Transition Council meeting in Boulder. BTAC will provide an update to the council.
  - c. Judy said the MDC staff appreciate the employee assistance program being offered and are looking for a job fair opportunity.
4. Discussion on MDC employees, clients and businesses:
  - a. Tim N. said the Jefferson High School would continue to be available for job fairs or transition meetings. There was discussion whether there was sufficient time at these meetings for the MDC employees to receive answers to their questions. Dan V. added he hopes to have at least two more in the upcoming months. Dan added the staff group homes will most likely be four, three, and two per home with approximately 20 staff per home.
  - b. The BTAC agreed to send a letter of appreciation to the MDC employees.
5. Community economy and well-being:

- a. Micky Z. added Big Sky Trust Fund grant for the Master Plan for Boulder will next be reviewed on June 7 and we should know shortly after whether the grant is awarded.
- b. Making Boulder's Future Bright
  - i. Sally B. reported on Marketing stating there was one meeting held in early May. Mary Rochelle will join the next meeting and help with marketing ideas and strategies. Discussion on bringing Shirley Beck from P-Burg took place. Tom continued to state that Shirley Beck was instrumental in the vibrancy for P-Burg's community motivation towards revitalization. The next meeting is June 8 at 6:30 p.m. in the Boulder Courthouse Extension office. **Action Item:** (1) There was general BTAC agreement that the representatives of the Boulder community should visit Phillipsburg and that we need to invite Shirley Beck to visit Boulder.
  - ii. Linda N. updated the group on Attracting Small Business. There seems to be a lot of overlap between the groups but this group, like marketing, is seeking information through different groups including Commerce, Agriculture, and the city process. Discussion from this group also relates to what makes Boulder not only inviting but uninviting. June 15, 6:30 p.m. at the Boulder City Hall is the next meeting. **Action Items:** (2) Dan V. will ask the Department of Commerce to attend the next meeting of the "Attracting Businesses" to which the "Marketing Committee" will also be invited. (3) A public meeting with the Department of Agriculture will be set up in the next few weeks. (4) Leonard W. suggested the initiation of a tax increment financing district. Drew D. asked that Tom Harrington do a short presentation on tax increment financing at the next meeting.
  - iii. Tom H. reported on the Recreation group stating there was a great turnout. The group is breaking out into smaller groups: Fishing/hunting, motorized, non-motorized. Next meeting in July.
  - iv. Drew D. reported on MDC repurposing committee. He handed out a summary of notes to his two meetings. The focus of the meetings has been determining the purpose of the group and drafting the criteria for what the community feels are acceptable uses of the campus. He mentioned that Dan V. has stated the State will not use the MDC campus for a purpose that is not consistent with what the community wants.
- c. Information Hub (new agenda item) – Mary Rochelle. with the Food Corps Program at the schools has volunteered to assist us the next few months in creating an information hub called Making Boulder's Future Bright that will tie BTAC and newly organized committees together. This information hub will be a one stop shop for meeting agendas, meeting minutes, and a calendar. This site will help to engage the community in the BTAC and committee activities and act as a sounding board.
- d. Rest stop – Leonard W. said a meeting is planned in the next ten days with Skytop Ranch to review a preliminary design.
- e. South Campus – Micky Z. mentioned there will be a Phase 1 with EPA done near the end of June and progression with the Preliminary Architect Report continues.
- f. Recreational trails – was decided could be moved to 5.B.iii.

- g. High Speed Internet – nothing new.
  - h. Other - none
6. Information provided from area leaders and organizations:
- a. Chamber - nothing
  - b. Boulder Schools – Tim N. reported high school finished last week and a community BBQ for Graduation Matters took place. Jefferson High School graduated 56. Terry M. to bring elementary news to next meeting.
  - c. City of Boulder – Mayor Gary said they are starting the budget process for upcoming year and making priority lists.
  - d. Faith Group Support - nothing
  - e. Other – Linda N. provided an update on the Elkhorn Community Foundation stating three out of three grants were awarded: swimming pool, Boulder elementary music program and carousel. The board is expanded to nine members with representation from northern end of the valley. In response to an audience question, Leonard W. indicated he had made a request with Great West Engineering to look at the possibility of commercial development in the vicinity of the proposed rest stop. Terry M. discussed a fundraiser opportunity with Ballin’ in Big Rock basketball tournament.
7. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.
8. Next meeting will be July 7 at 8:00 a.m. at the Boulder Town Hall