

WHITE RIVER AREA PREPAREDNESS (WRAP)
MINUTES
MARCH 31, 2022

The meeting was called to order by acting chairman Don Davidson at 7:02pm

Elaine Urie said an opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

New attendee Sarah Allen, originally from Georgia USA was introduced. Others attending introduced themselves.

March 24 minutes were displayed; the only correction noted was in the spelling of Mark Stamos' last name. With no other amendments, the minutes were approved with a motion/second from Cody Kinney and Heather Fitzpatrick.

OLD BUSINESS

A Legal advisor/attorney Kelly Clark shared that an "EIN," Employer Identification Number, for WRAP had been obtained, which is necessary for the IRS. He shared that a certified accountant would be needed for the 501(c)(3) filing, as well as needing a PO Box address. Elaine said that she had contacted an accountant and was waiting to hear from her. Kelly indicated that the estimated time to finish the next filing step after arranging for the accountant should be about 2 weeks. Rhonda Davidson added that funds from donations were available to cover all the necessary filing costs, including funds to pay the initial PO Box opening fees.

B. Heather Fitzpatrick asked what the ongoing costs for WRAP would be. The only items identified presently were the \$10 annual fee for registering and keeping the organization name up-to-date, the current cost of \$76/year PO Box rent fee, and the annual cost for a "ZOOM" account (if the latter is desired by WRAP members). Kelly Clark agreed that WRAP could use his personal ZOOM account rather than purchasing separately. It was mentioned that ZOOM could be used for meetings with the Vernal UT preparedness group when needed.

C. Heather Fitzpatrick said that if WRAP starts fund-raising projects for specific community resiliency purchases, an item to consider might be a redundant, independent solar water purification system, such as those deployed by groups she'd worked with in Africa to produce clean water for remote areas with no infrastructure. She recalled such systems cost about \$10,000 and have the capacity to purify very large amounts of water on a daily basis.

D. Jane Pennell discussed ongoing changes to the WRAP organization tree, and that its structure would remain fluid as categories and participants are added and refined. She encouraged people to contact her at actionsafetypro@gmail.com to either suggest more categories or to have name(s) added within a category. Jane also explained the phrase “Table-Top Exercise” and suggested that at some point in the future the group conduct such an event, representing some kind of emergency scenario.

E. Chris Burke talked about contacting the Park Ranger program at Colorado NW Community College (CNCC) in Rangely about having a Concealed Carry Weapon (CCW) course for interested community members. Elaine Urie said that John Simms had once taught such a course but she didn’t know of his current availability or willingness.

F. Kelly Clark discussed his idea of involving community members, including area youth, in learning to build “old-school toe-pincher” style caskets. He proposed a “carpentry” section in the WRAP organization tree. Kelly noted that commercial coffins are extremely expensive, and that making such a product available locally could help people in the region and could also be used for WRAP fund-raising.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. There was a discussion about the need for non-traditional emergency medicinal supplies to preserve the lives of those with chronic medical conditions in the event of collapse of traditional pharmaceutical supply chains. Several, including Heather, Tammy Dahle and Sarah Allen said they have some level of expertise with herbal remedies. Tammy stated an interest in foraging in the Rangely vicinity to determine what plants are available and useful as medicines as well as which purely nutritional plants grow here. Elaine mentioned that she can provide free edible “pigweed,” aka purslane, to interested people later in the spring/summer; Elaine also shared an article about the unrivaled importance of vitamin D3, including the history of its discovery and early development.
- B. Several people mentioned books, such as “Off the Grid” that are excellent resources for individual or group study. Heather had the idea of developing a WRAP library from materials people could donate from their own private collections that could be “checked out” by those interested. Mark Stamos said that he could add links to books and articles to the “resources” area of the WRAP website: <http://wraprangely.com>
- C. There was concern voiced about the lack of year-round produce-growing capacity in Rangely. Don Davidson said this could potentially be addressed

by expanding the existing community garden greenhouse by adding a lower-level “dugout” to use the ambient ground temperature to perhaps make cold season heating of the space viable for year-round growing.

- D. Don stated he could quickly teach people how to do a “screencast” if they want to teach the group on a subject of personal expertise. He showed a short part of his own screencast as a demonstration. Mark Stamos said that members could post their material(s) directly to the WRAP website, perhaps in a “forum” section. He said permission(s) would be needed from him to guard against the posting of unauthorized/unvetted ads from outside parties. He also suggested that printing of posted materials be considered in the event of a “grid down” and/or “no internet available” situation. Mark displayed the “join us” area from the WRAP website.
- E. The \$5million Rangely grant was discussed briefly. Don Davidson said he pledged to be a “watchdog” for the people so that city officials insure an “all-threats hardened” microgrid for essential services and to assure that funds are not spent on unrelated projects. He encouraged people to visit cogencypower.com website to learn more about the solar technology to be used in the proposed project.
- F. A press release written by Susie Berardi concerning WRAP appeared in the March 31, 2022 “Rio Blanco Herald Times” newspaper. Mark Stamos said it would also be available on the WRAP website. Don said Susie planned to publish the release on the Rangely Community Bulletin Board Facebook page and in the “Rangely Review” newspaper.
- G. A reminder was issued that suggestions for future meeting agendas can be made to any of the 7 members whose names are at the top of the WRAP organization tree printout. Website creator Mark Stamos mentioned that he can be contacted at: wraprangely@protonmail.com

The next WRAP meeting will be held Thursday April 6, 2022 at 7:00pm

Since there was no further business, it was moved by Elaine Urie and seconded by Mark Stamos that the gathering conclude. The meeting adjourned at 8:02pm.

Submitted by Rhonda Davidson, substitute temporary secretary, WRAP