

## Developer to Hold Meetings for Public Input

At the April 25 Manitou Springs City Council work session meeting, Parry Thomas who is working on plans for "The Quarry" development in the Red Rock Canyon property announced that the developer would hold a series of public meetings to get public input concerning the proposed development. The first of these meetings is scheduled for May 17 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manitou Springs City Hall, 606 Manitou Avenue.

At the April 25 Council meeting, Mr. Thomas presented his timeline for the planning process for "The Quarry". He plans to gather public input mid-April through mid-June and hold public meetings mid-May through July. Analysis of Tax Increment Financing for the proposed "Urban Renewal" District is scheduled for June and July, and Mr. Thomas expects an application for annexation to be filed in the mid-July through August time frame.

Mr. Thomas said that he and the developer had already received comment on a variety of public concerns including annexation issues, environmental issues, open space concerns, and tax increment financing.

Manitou Council Chambers were packed to overflowing at the April 25 meeting, and reporters were present from Channel 11 and several newspapers. Despite the overflow crowd, Mayor Hankin declined to move the meeting to the larger Memorial Hall because recording equipment for the meeting had been set up in Council Chambers. The recording equipment malfunctioned and was inoperative during the meeting.

An excellent article on the April 25 meeting appeared in the April 28 **Pikes Peak Journal**.

### FYI

## Excerpts from Manitou Springs Annexation Plan

- 2.1. by providing for outdoor experiences .... and
  - maintaining the quality of its open spaces
  - emphasize the natural beauty of the outdoors
- 3.1 significant natural resources should be conserved and protected
  - 3.1.2.3 limiting development .... and managing irreplaceable natural resources for future use
  - development ... must protect significant natural resources
- 4.1.7 the plan emphasizes public outdoor spaces

open spaces which consist of common public areas

- 4.1.1.2 if annexation involves .... sites of historic significance .... expansion of the local historic district to include the annexation area or portions thereof

- 5.4.1 emphasizes public outdoor spaces

Supplied by Joe Fabeck

### FROM THE CHAIR

## We're For, Not Against

Since being asked to coordinate the Committee's efforts to defend Red Rock Canyon I've visited several committee members to get their sense of who we are and what we're about. During almost every meeting I'm told how pleased everyone is with our stand against development of the Canyon.

I'm quick to correct them. We aren't against anything. We're for something. It's the other guy who is against.

We're for preservation of Red Rock Canyon as accessible open space. We're for defending the Canyon's wildlife habitat, flower-filled meadows and historic sites from the bulldozer's blade. We're for preserving the geologic treasures and scenic beauty of unique red rock formations, natural extensions of the Garden of the Gods. We're for open space with hiking trails and picnic sites for everyone's pleasure.

The next time you're promoting our project be positive and upbeat. Make sure everyone understands we're for, not against. We're for the preservation and protection of Red Rock Canyon as free and open space for residents and visitors to the Pikes Peak area to use and enjoy far into the future.

It's the other guy who is against.

Joe Fabeck, Chair

## Red Rock Canyon Committee Has New Meeting Place

The Red Rock Canyon Committee meeting place has been changed to the El Paso County Parks building at 2002 Creek Crossing. The building is located just east of the intersection of 21st Street and Rio Grande in Bear Creek Regional Park.

The next Red Rock Canyon Committee meeting will be Thursday June 1 at 7:00 P.M.

## TIDBITS

# Pigeon Caves: An Interesting Geologic Feature

When I was a student at Midland School around 1950, one of my classmates told me about Pigeon Caves near the north end of the Dakota hogback. He described two caves, one on each side of the hogback, and told me that the caves were home to many pigeons. I've always been curious about these caves but never got to see them until last Summer when I went on a hike with George Cameron and Hal Prostka for a preliminary study of the botany and geology of the Red Rock Canyon Property.

There are, indeed, two caves just as I'd been told. But, they are very different from most caves. Each cave lies at the end of a deep trench which is perhaps 100 feet long and 60 feet deep. Hal explained that these trenches are gaps between strata where the strata have separated, and that they are analogous to the bergschrund in a glacier. Blocks of Dakota sandstone have fallen from the ridge into the trenches on each side. At the northern end of each trench, these sandstone boulders have become wedged together

forming arches across the trenches, and these arches create the roofs of Pigeon Caves. We saw that part of one of the arch roofs had recently collapsed.

If you look west from the area around 31st and Robinson, you will notice a hump on the Dakota hogback which has a light colored face. This is the face above the eastern Pigeon Cave trench. The light color indicates a relatively fresh cleavage face where rock has broken off and fallen into the trench.

Don Ellis

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## We Need Help!

There's lots to do and we need help to get it all done. Once Red Rocks is gone, it's gone forever and we need everyone's help to make sure that doesn't happen. A few hours a week helping get our message across and taking care of the myriad other details important to our success will be appreciated. A few dollars to help cover operating expenses will help too.

Contact any board member to volunteer or donate.

Joe Faback, Chair

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Opinions expressed in **THE RED ROCK RAG** are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Red Rock Canyon Committee.

## WE WANT YOUR INPUT

Letters, articles or comment (and glossy photos) may be sent to:

Rag Editor  
Red Rock Canyon Committee  
P. O. Box 2352  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901-2352

Electronic submissions may be sent by e-mail to donellis@iex.net. Electronic text **MUST** be in plain ASCII (.txt) format. **Word processor formats such as Microsoft Word (.doc) cannot be accepted!!!!**

Digital images will look best if they are 360 dpi bit map images at the size they will appear in the Rag. We'll try to work with whatever images you send, though.

**THE RED ROCK RAG** reserves the right to publish or not publish any submissions and to edit submissions for style and length.

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## YES, I WANT TO SUPPORT RED ROCK CANYON OPEN SPACE!

- Enclosed is my contribution to Red Rock Canyon Committee for operating expenses (Check payable to "Red Rock Canyon Committee", not tax deductible)
- I want to be involved.  
My efforts could best be used for: \_\_\_\_\_
- Keep me informed with **THE RED ROCK RAG**.

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