

Notes from the Town of Marble
Master Plan Committee Meeting
February 8, 2024

A. Meeting Call to Order – Present: Sam Wilke, Sue Blue, Brian Sutter, Greg Tonazzi, Angus Barber, Richard Wells and Connie Hendrix. Also present: Mark Chain, Ron Leach, Terry Langley, Hawkins Siemon

B. Review and Approval of January 25 MPC meeting notes

- (accurate, anything missing, etc.)

C. Discussion with Marble Charter School

- Hawkins Siemon, President – Marble Charter School Board – Hawkins has been on the school board for 6 years and has three children at the school. He has lived here for 18 years. He sees two of the main needs for the school as housing and revenue. Cost of housing is prohibitive for many staff members. They have seen an increase in pressure on revenues. Cost of goods is a reflection of the Roaring Fork Valley but funding is from Gunnison County. This year they voted to increase teacher's salaries to match Roaring Fork to help with teacher recruitment and retention. The Lead King Loop is the biggest fundraiser they have. Enrollment is the main source as they get funds for each student so increasing enrollment is a goal. Angus asked how things would change if the school was in Garfield rather than Gunnison. Greg asked how much land the school has and if there was enough for housing. Mark spoke to working with Gunnison on housing, bond issues, seasonal housing. Angus asked about the change in leadership and teachers next year and Hawkins said they are looking forward to the future of the school. Ron asked Hawkins to brief the group on the bond issue for school buildings. Marble Charter got \$1,000,000 with the funds planned for the historical building – roof, boiler, electrical, paint, grading, safety and security and other repairs. They are using that as matching funds for another grant. Sue invited the public to school board meetings the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. Angus suggested that the MPC put a task force together to talk with potential benefactors regarding land and housing acquisition. Sales tax revenues and rates were discussed. Ron said a dedicated revenue stream from the town to the school is possible to develop and could be discussed with the town board. One avenue would be a ballot issue. Richard spoke to the possibility of a tourism tax and using it for a variety of issues. Sam talked about optional fees that can be added to every sale in town.

D. Quick Review and confirmation of Marble Assets and Liabilities from June 15 Meeting – these are listed in the packet. Mark suggested identifying them under these categories: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) He identified a few threats– wildfire, access, mudflow. Brian added lithium battery fires. Greg added geological hazards such as Slate Creek. Ron spoke to the need for an emergency management plan, an idea that came out of the Sunday Soup & Conversations. Brian said we need a list of residents. Mark said this could be started through the county. Connie asked that it include pets. Ron feels that big money/high end money changing the culture is another threat. Sue spoke to protecting the people who are here from higher costs/taxes. Greg asked to add the Colorado Stone Quarry to assets. It is owned by Red Graniti and was featured on an early edition of Dirtiest Jobs. Connie identified a need for health services and reminded the group of Greg's suggestion for transportation down valley. Angus sees a need for social services/resource info. Mark said that future

community meetings would include a combination in-person and zoom meeting at the end of Feb/beginning of March.

E. Miscellaneous issues for comment – To be included in the Master Plan Mark distributed a worksheet and asked the group to fill it out with comments on various issues to be mentioned in the Master Plan.

F. Determine next Meeting Date/Location – Feb. 22nd. Come with the above worksheet and comments.