

Minutes of the Ouray Ice Park Advisory Team (IPAT) January 8, 2020 Meeting

The meeting was attended by Elías de Andrés Martos, Steve Berwanger, Dan Chehayl, Nate Dissler, John Hulburd (new OIPI Board Member), Micah Lewkowitz, Grant Kleeves, Justin Perry, and Lance Sullins; Matt Wade called in.

We discussed the work of the IPAT in 2019, citing the work on data from last season to help manage the concession and agreements in the community on how to make the park work better as reasonable outcomes. The ongoing data collection with 4 Ambassadors covering 7 days a week and new data automation system efforts should improve our estimates of capacity and enable better management to our targets for various user groups.

Should we choose to replace Braydin (we are still at the chartered 7 team members) or as we replace members going forward, we need to consider demographics of the community represented beyond climbers / guides and local business interests, e.g., bringing capabilities supportive of our water initiative, synergy between the Park and OTO raising awareness of Ouray as an outdoor recreation magnet, and (ahem) younger folk with more social media savvy.

The water initiative is now real, with the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and OIPI signed and a grant application in for the feasibility study. Detailed project planning will now begin and early fundraising efforts are under way (first \$10K in the bank and more pledged!). We will be working with the IPAT on the initiative, particularly to expand our network for the capital campaign.

Other agenda items we will pursue include unique considerations with event-based groups, how to add sources of revenue, and how to more effectively bring volunteers into our operations, including collecting high-resolution data and supplementing the Ambassadors' roles. Further tuning of the user group allocations for next season based on this season's data will be addressed over the summer.

Discussion of the avalanche risk- and mitigation-related closing of Camp Bird Road at Weehawken has potential impact on the Park's loading (as well as access to the back country). Please let your County Commissioners know how you feel about this proposal.

I will get with John Wood to bring him up to speed as the new City Council IPAT Core Member, and with Ethan Funk, who is our overall City Liaison for the Ice Park.

Next meeting is April 1 at 5:30 pm.