

Palmer Lake Board of Trustees, May 13 and 27

Board rescinds parking ban for visitors

By James Howald and Jackie Burhans
The Palmer Lake Board of Trustees (PLBOT) met twice in May. Regular board meetings were held on May 13 and May 27. A workshop scheduled for May 27 was cancelled.
In May, the board reversed its course on parking, opening streets for parking by visitors to the town except where signs specify no parking. The board held a public hearing on a resolution to grant a temporary conditional use permit to Fletcher Drilling, allowing the business to store and repair heavy equipment at its site. The board returned to its effort to update the town's noise ordinance, an issue tabled in April. Water issues were also on the agenda, with the board considering long-term water conservation policies. The board passed a resolution to name a general contractor for the Town Hall restoration project. Finally, two special event permits were approved.

Board rescinds no parking ordinances, opens streets to visitors

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic brought a much larger than typical number of visitors seeking outdoor recreation to Palmer Lake, putting pressure on available parking. In response the board passed Ord. 01-2020 and Ord.03-2020, which together prohibited visitors from parking on town streets and closed the parking areas at the reservoir trailhead and at Glen Park.
At its meeting on May 13, the board changed its approach and discussed Ord. 7-2021, which rescinds the two previous ordinances and specifies that town staff will designate with permanent signs areas where parking is not allowed, effectively reversing the default from visitor parking prohibited to visitor parking permitted unless a sign indicates no parking. The southern end of the town, known as The Glen, will continue to prohibit visitors from parking on all streets.
The change was made with feedback from residents and business owners and followed a street-by-street analysis of parking options done by town staff. Several residents expressed to the board their concern with traffic, noise, litter, and other problems they attributed to visitors.
In the discussion preceding the vote, Town Administrator Dawn Collins pointed out that public parking was available adjacent to Highway 105, just west of the lake, close to the town's restaurants and shops. The public parking is marked with blue and white signs on Highway 105, and the town is working to complete an additional public parking lot behind the town's baseball field.
The board voted in favor of Ordinance 7-2021, with only board member Glant Havenar voting no.
Heavy equipment storage prompts debate
At the May 13 meeting, the board held a public hearing on a Resolution 25-2021, which proposes a six-month conditional use permit that would allow Fletcher Drilling to continue to store and repair heavy equipment related to their well service business at 797 S. Highway 105. The town's Planning Commission had recommended the temporary permit be granted to allow the business owner time to address the issue.
Resident Gary Atkins gave the board his understanding of the company's history. Fletcher Drilling had been in business for 50 years, he said, and they switched from well drilling to well service about 20 years ago. Their business license has lapsed, and their property is littered with old equipment and debris that the neighbors want cleaned up, he said. Atkins argued the company should not get a permit until they commit to a time frame

to remove the equipment from their property and urged the board to ask the business owner to attend a future hearing.
Board member Karen Stuth moved to continue the hearing until the May 27 meeting, and the board voted unanimously to do so.
At the May 27 hearing, Tommy Fletcher, the business owner, told the board the tanks on the property would be removed and he would auction the drill rigs and all other equipment. Fletcher said he thought six months would be enough time to clear the property of equipment.
Resident Matt Stephen told the board that the equipment in question had not been moved in years and that



Sisters' Thrift & Boutique
Highest Quality * Lowest Prices

Phone: 719-282-0316

8674 N. Union Blvd.
Next to Safeway



Gently Used:

Clothing & Shoes
Household Items
Small Furniture
Glassware
Collectibles
Accessories & Jewelry
Books & Cards

Store Hours:

Monday - Friday
10:00 am - 5:30 pm
Saturdays
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

We are always in need of quality donations and volunteers. Please contact the boutique.

\$5.00 Off

our bargain prices. \$15 minimum purchase on regularly priced items only. 1 coupon per customer per visit
Expires June 30, 2021 Our Community News

MLS Flat Fee Listing—\$3,495

No Upfront Fee—No Hidden Fees Later

Perfect blend of a flat fee savings combined with the experience only a seasoned Agent can provide.

Less than 1% fee!



Dianne Meyer
Owner/Broker

HomesNowColorado.com
DiannesReviews.com
719-233-4005

38 Years Local Area Resident—Rated in Top 10% of Agents

Includes Photographer Taken Photos—Plus Aerial

NEW DAY COTTAGES ASSISTED LIVING HOMES

Welcome Home!

Exceptional quality of life is waiting at New Day Cottages. Residents enjoy a cozy, comfortable, caring lifestyle; family enjoys peace of mind knowing their loved ones are happy, well cared for, and safe.

Join our family

Join us for a personal tour with our professional staff. Or, visit us online and read our story. We look forward to welcoming your loved ones home.

719-266-1100

Website: www.NewDayCottages.com
Email: newdaycottages@q.com

1577 Turner Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80920
10975 Howells Road, Black Forest, CO 80908



New Day Cottages