

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION**  
683-4333

**One Riverfront (ORF)**

**Minutes**  
**April 16, 2019**

**Called to Order:**

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by co-chair, Fred Barbaro. Those present from the Commission were:

Fred Barbero, co-chair	Laurie Tyre
Catherine Ventling	Karen Jefferson, co-chair
Rondo Buechler	David Varner
Tom Moore	JoAnna Woodruff
Laney Heath	

Also Duke Wortmann, Ex-Officio, City of Grand Junction, Pete Firman, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Ellen Miller, Round Up Business Liaison, Joel Sholtes, PhD, PE, Instructor at CMU - Civil Engineering

Absent: Orilee Witte, Larry Copeland

**Approval of Minutes** Rondo/Karen. Motion passed.

**Announcements:**

Karen announced two confirmed shows for the Riverfront Concert Series – Sonny Landreth on Thursday, 6/20 and Tab Benoit on Thursday, July 11. The third show is pending.

Karen passed around volunteer sign up sheets for the events agreed upon at the February meeting.

**Partner Updates:**

**Colorado Parks & Wildlife (CPW)**– Pete is working with Ron Wilson, Sandstone Entertainment and the Riverfront Foundation on purchasing lights for the walkways during Riverfront Concerts. This would eliminate the need to rent the large light towers.

Pete reported the City of Grand Junction has voiced questions about policy and enforcement for pedestrian (walkers, runners, and bicyclists) user fees for those utilizing the Riverfront Trail (RFT) sections going through CPW parks. Policy continues to be reviewed. Currently, pedestrians using the RFT traveling river-right (downstream direction) can pass through CPW parks without paying a user fee as long as no services

within the park are used. Pedestrian users of any trails, by any access point, in Connected Lakes or Island Acres parks will require the purchase of a park pass. One park pass per group of one to four pedestrians will be required. This is consistent with other park systems.

No fee will be charged to people walking or biking into the James M. Robb Colorado River State Park, Fruita section for any of the 2019 Riverfront Concert Series events. Those entering the park by car for the concerts will have the fee waived with four or more people in the vehicle.

**Palisade** – Greg Mikolai was unable to attend. Rondo informed that Frank Watt has announced his retirement as Public Works Director for Palisade. Frank is a former ORF member and current member of the RFF.

**Mesa County** – County was unable to attend.

**City of Fruita** – Ture Nycum was unable to attend.

**City of Grand Junction** Duke Wortmann did not have any updates to report from the City of GJ.

**New Business** –

Karen read from the letter of support for phase two of the Palisade Plunge trail and passed it around. Rondo provided clarification of the trail section from Lands End Road to the Mesa Top trail and the connection into Palisade.

Karen mentioned the letter of support for the City of Grand Junction Riverside area levy but did not have the letter to share with the group. Will ask Michele to email it to all commission members.

**Committees** –

Karen introduced the need to divide commission members to participate on committees to support ORF initiatives: Round Up for the Riverfront, trail signage, website, and Catherine added the social media committee. Karen asked how members wanted to determine how the commission wants to proceed to volunteer. The following members spoke up to volunteer:

Website: Karen, Catherine, Laurie, JoAnna (copywriting only)

Social Media: current members are JoAnna, Laurie, Catherine (more members needed to rotate duties)

Round Up: current members are Fred and Ellen (paid position). David and Tom volunteered.

Signage: current member is Rondo (plans to attend May 14 UTC meeting) and Laney spoke up to volunteer

Karen will coordinate with Michele to email committee volunteer lists to the group and encouraged all commission members who have not already volunteered for a committee to do so.

**Old Business –**

IGA update – no new projects pending

E-bikes on Palisade trails - Rondo will also be presenting to the Town of Palisade Trustees to allow e-bikes on the RFT.

Round Up – Ellen continues to call on Grand Valley businesses to support the program. New sign ups: Munchies in Fruita, Pablo’s Pizza in Fruita, Happy Trails gifts in Fruita. She reported the Fruita businesses seem more willing to support community involvement and activities relating to the river. She has also completed sign up with Loki in Grand Junction. Ellen said more than one business has asked if they can have their business name on trail signs. Karen said in the past that ORF and RFF have not embraced commercialization of the trail names and signs. The Commission asked Karen to revisit that with the RFF as they believe it could bring in additional revenue.

**Other member comments –**

JoAnna said a church group had asked how they go about cleaning up a section of the trail. Discussion determined she could give the church group permission and would give them a shout-out and thank you on Facebook.

David announced the Two Rivers Wildfire Coalition will be holding regular, monthly meetings to educate and build awareness to the public about local wildfire prevention.

**Public Comment** – Joel Sholtes introduced himself and his interest in ORF.

**Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.