

ONE RIVERFRONT (ORF)
(formerly known as Colorado Riverfront Commission)

683-4333

Minutes
February 16, 2021

Called to Order:

Virtual meeting called to order at 5:30pm by co-chair, Catherine Ventling. Those present from ORF were:

Catherine Ventling	Fred Barbero	Laney Heath
Joel Sholtes	Tom Moore	Rondo Bueschler
Dave Bastian	Jennifer Reyes	JoAnna Woodruff

Also present: Pete Firmin – Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Rick Taggart – City Council Member City of Grand Junction, Travis Haldeman, Mesa County staff, and Michele Rohrbach – ORF staff

Absent: Lou Patterson, David Varner

Approval of Minutes – Minutes from December meeting were approved after Catherine asked to note that it was a virtual meeting.

Announcements – There were no announcements.

Partner Updates:

City of Fruita – Ture was unable to attend but emailed Michele the following update:

- Parks, Health, Recreation, Open Space and Trails Master Plan is in its final editing stages and we hope to have it adopted in Mid-March. The Plan continues to advocate for the development of the primary trail system within Fruita as well as making regional trail connections.
- Maps and signage for the Way-Finding project are being developed and vetted. We have identified 4 routes within Fruita to help pedestrians and bicyclists easily find their way around our community. The hope is to have the signage in place early summer. Part of this project is to develop signage to help trail users get from the Monument View Section to the Kokopelli Section of the Riverfront Trail.
- Landscaping started today in the two roundabouts at highway 340 and I-70 – heck ya’!

City of Grand Junction – Dos Rios making great progress on 65 acres. Expect contract in next 60 days. Developer is excited to develop the property.

Property directly east of The Eddy project is going before the public as an April ballot question. Rick asked if developer had contacted the Riverfront Foundation (RFF), Michele stated no. Election is April 6th. Rick is concerned as to whether it will pass because of the legalese. He wants to make sure ORF/RFF are included in meetings with developer. Fred volunteered, as did Joel. Rick will get language and check with John Shaver, City Attorney.

Laney stated at last meeting discussed how close the trail is planned to the river. Other concerns with potential repair and future upkeep.

Colorado Parks & Wildlife – Pete said done at 28 5/8, tamarisk and Russian olive removed. Created firebreak for CPW property and residential area with grant from Grand Junction Real Estate. More work in March and plan to have media outreach.

Internal document being drafted for trail building with wildlife in mind.

Mesa County – Welcomed Travis, Mesa County Parks & Grounds Manager. He has been with MC for 15 years. He had nothing to report.

Town of Palisade – Thea Chase unable to attend. Michele stated that Pete Baier, Mesa County Administrator stopped by her office and he stated MC would like to see trail on Palisade's sewer connection to Clifton Sanitation.

Palisade CDOT meeting. Catherine said CDOT working on plan and prefer F & G Roads rather than 6, would make a better west route. CDOT will reach out to stakeholders once plan is ready. She said CDOT will reach out but they do have to consider more than just vehicle traffic. Rick asked about safety on 6 since F and G Roads don't go out that far.

RFF – Year-end fundraising ended better than expected. Grand Junction Economic Partnership (GJEP) approached Michele about having an office in the proposed Las Colonias Conservation Center. 2021 Colorado Riverfront Concert Series (CRCS) planning has begun and working through the process. Catherine and Fred approached RFF to help ORF in funding shortfall if partners funding falls short. Was able to provide a long overdue raise for Michele.

New Business – IGA meeting, Michele explained that meeting was scheduled for March 4th at 7:00am and would need to be virtual, did ORF still want to hold it. Group voted yes.

Outdoor Heritage Days (OHD) – Michele asked if ORF would like to participate in OHD, which will be at the end of May, rather than in April. She stated that ORF stopped participating because it usually was the same day as Earth Day. Previous board members did not feel it was a worthwhile event to have a booth at since the kids were more interested in the free fishing poles and shooting activities. Jennifer said she has been to the event and thinks ORF should participate since it's a free event. Catherine, Fred and Joel volunteered. Laney suggested having information regarding the Safe a Life – life jacket program available. 2021 Earth Day/Southwest Arbor Fest has been cancelled.

There was no new business.

Old Business

Save a Life – life jacket kiosks – Laney has spoken with Brian today and he received three boxes of new jackets today. These were donated in infant, small, medium and large sizes. He approved sign (Laney asked if everyone say the emailed sample). Catherine did the map and John Shaver, City of Grand Junction attorney reviewed wording. Brian is looking for volunteers to help pick up lifejackets on Sunday in Loma and bring back to other kiosks. Laney motioned to go with larger sign, would need three signs, which would be on metal and a quoted cost of approximately \$300. Rick Taggart volunteered to donate \$300 to cover the cost. Joel second. Motion was passed. Group thanked Rick for his generous donation.

Colorado River Corridor Plan – Joel stated doing stakeholder interviews. Did presentation to Board of County Commissioners. Trying to get more formalized steering committee together with governmental entities and other stakeholders. Joel asked if anyone on ORF wants to participate to let him know. Fred is interested. Catherine is interested. Catherine also told Joel that Fred would be talking to him about The Eddy Project.

Signs Committee – Rondo said City of Grand Junction, City of Fruita signs are matching, and Palisade is working on plans.

Fundraising Committee – Lou wasn't able to attend. Dave had to leave before got to this agenda item. Catherine stated that the RFF would like to have ORF do more fundraising.

Social Media Committee –JoAnna said she doesn't have anything new for social media. She is circling back to Instagram. Need really good # and need to use it a lot. Jennifer volunteered to work with JoAnna.

There was no further old business.

Public Comment –Discussed can public attend virtual meetings. Rick will talk with John Shaver about it tomorrow.

Agenda item for April meeting - Joel asked what are the goals ORF wants to achieve for the coming year

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.