

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333

Riverfront Commission (RFC)

Minutes
May 21, 2013

Called to Order:

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

Katie Steele	Ken Henry	Stacy Beaugh
Brad Taylor	Frank Watt	Jason Bailey
Claudette Konola	Cliff Sprinkle	

Also present were Bennett Boeschstein, Grand Junction City Council, Scott McBrayer, Urban Trails Committee (UTC), Bob Fuller, City of Fruita City Council, Donna Ross with Mesa County, Pete Firmin, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Rob Schoeber GJ City, Traci Wieland, Judy Macy, guest, Libby Collins with Mesa Land Trust (MLT), Bennett Price with Town of Palisade and Michele Rohrbach.

Katie stated that there was a typo - should be bringing not brining.

Approval – Ken/Claudette. Motion passed.

Announcements – Urban Trail Open House – Tuesday, June 4th at the County Community Services Building for 4:00pm to 6:30pm.

Float trip has been changed to bike ride. Will start at Walter Walker, end at Botanic Gardens (if enough interest will ride out to 29 Road to see safety issues). Bennett B. suggested meeting at new brewery after the ride.

Volunteers needed for Striders Run on July 27th. (Stacy suggested map for detour).

New Business –

Monument Road Vision – Libby Collins with MLT gave presentation of Monument Road Vision and trail that will connect into with Three Sisters and Lunch Loop. Looking at safety and connectivity. Five landowners are interested in working with MLT on conservation easement, land acquisition and trail easements. Letter of support from RFC would be helpful.

Las Colonias – Rob and Traci gave presentation on the Las Colonias plan. Park is about 130 acres. Currently two master plans, one that is 15 years old and one from 2008 that had a community center as part of the plan. Because of being mill tailing site, have removed the community center from current plan. Have five year commitment from the Lions Club and have some funds in the City budget. Feel this park will make a wonderful addition to the “string-of-pearls”. RFC can help with educating new elected officials importance of project. Will be moving Matchett Park along with this park at the same time.

There was further new business.

Old Business –

Maps – Frank has not received an update from Steve. Frank updated the group that Steve Smith with the City of Grand Junction will be helping work on the project. Won't be using John Hodge for the RFC map development. Stacy stated that the maps at Outdoor Heritage Days were a huge success.

Strategic Planning – Brad said on hold until fall. Want to get some of the other projects completed first.

Safety and Signage – Frank said he got a quote from Greg Linza as to cost which would be \$1,000 per sign. Will be asking the RFF for grant funds of \$15,000. Stacy motioned to ask the RFF for funds for signage. Claudette seconded. Motion passed. Michele told Frank that the RFF will be meeting on June 27th.

Government Relations – Jason said the committee has been meeting with Government officials. Fruita plans to continue building trails and know that it's time for Palisade. Will be meeting with the new City Council. With the Brady issue, there appears to be a perception that the RFC is an environmental group rather than it being non-partisan, apolitical group. Concern if RFC takes positions. RFC is concerned about perception and needs to work on dispelling this misinformation that RFC is into land taking and land condemnation – which is incorrect. Stacy suggested that the history and information needs to be defined and written down so that new members are aware the RFC isn't into zoning. Katie suggested Brad, Stacy and Ken get with Jason to work on getting something down on paper.

History – Ken said have had scheduling issues.

Media Relations/Outreach – Katie updated on the website revision.

Updates:

Mesa County – Donna said the contract goes before the Board of Commission on June 3rd and if approved will start on June 4th and should be done in September. Phase III could start in mid to late fall and completion in 2014. There are some issue that need to be work out before this all can happen.

City of Grand Junction – Mike was ill and unable to attend but Traci and Rob did update the group on Las Colonias.

City of Fruita – Bob had to leave to attend Fruita City Council meeting.

Town of Palisade – Bennett unable to attend.

KAFM – Bennett said need someone for next Tuesday,

Committee Reports:

UTC – Just reminded everyone about the open house on June 4th.

Partners – Al was unable to attend.

State Park – Pete had to leave to attend Fruita City Council meeting.

Public Comment –

Claudette proposed to write a letter of support for Monument Road Vision and Las Colonias.

July meeting will be same night as Bruce Hornsby so meeting has been canceled.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.