

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333

One Riverfront (ORF)

Minutes
June 13, 2022

Called to Order:

Meeting called to order at 5:35pm by co-chair, Lou Patterson. Those present from Commission were:

Catherine Ventling
David Varner
Jennifer Reyes
Rondo Buechler
Joel Sholtes via phone

Lou Patterson
Jamie Porta
Laney Heath
Fred Babero

Also present: Pete Firmin, Colorado State Park, Thea Chase with the Town of Palisade Town Board, new board member Nicole Grider, Denise Rodriguez guest of Jennifer's, new board member George Manning via phone and Michele Rohrbach.

Absent: Dave Bastian

Approval of Minutes – Rondo/Fred. Motion passed.

Announcements – Did introductions around the room for new ORF members in attendance.

Concert announcements – Friday, August 12th – Firefall, Friday, September 9th – Little Texas Tour of the Moon – Friday, September 9th and Saturday, September 10th – Michele stated she will need all board members to help since she can't be in two places at one time for the Tour of the Moon and Little Texas concert. She passed around sign-up sheets and said if someone signed up for Tour of the Moon and wanted to be at the concert instead, let her know so she can recruit more volunteers for Tour of the Moon.

Partner Updates:

City of Grand Junction – Rick was unable to attend.

City of Fruita – Marc unable to attend. Lou read Marc's email update, still working on the Highway 340 crossing, North Fruita Desert Trail building and preparing for the Bike Park construction in August/September. Fruita continues to look for grants to help fund additional trails, trail maintenance and fire mitigation throughout their urban trails. Laney said she road from the State Park in Fruita to Loma and was impressed with the weed mitigation.

Mesa County – Travis unable to attend. Lou read Travis' email update; the county finished the concrete repairs in the Clifton nature park section. They will be removing the large tree that came down this week. It is cleared from the trail but still needs to be removed.

Town of Palisade – Thea said the Blue Grass Festival was successful. She saw many people floating the river.

Colorado Parks & Wildlife – Pete said he is working on standardization of bollards and combination on the trails. Having more law enforcement issues at Connected Lakes. Have been using volunteers from RiverEdge West over the past few months and they have been able to remove tamarisk and Russian Olive. Used the down Russian Olive to close off social trails. Fire mitigation for the season is over for the year. Looking at fire mitigation signs at Connected Lakes. One panel would be for fire mitigation, ORF and reclamation work.

Catherine asked if he had more volunteer opportunities to send an email so she can post to social media. Volunteer opportunities currently are coming from RiversEdge West.

Jenn asked if the new signs are bilingual, and Pete said most of the signage is from 1990's so no they are not. Denise said that would be great to have them bilingual. Catherine explained that the Safe a Life program isn't part of ORF but we helped them out when they were in need.

Thea added Palisade could use a panel at Harkeys (?). Laney asked if the kiosks have been installed and Thea said yes and they look good. Thea said she did speak with Janet this past weekend regarding the swimming beach at Riverbend on weekends.

Riverfront Foundation – No one from the Foundation was able to attend. Catherine explained that the Foundation is the fundraising arm

New Business –

June IGA update – Catherine explained that the Intergovernmental Agency (IGA) meeting meets quarterly and talked about the agencies involved. In June, the group had a wonderful and fast float. Thea thinks it's important to get elected official to get a different perspective. Discussed the missing links, new developments, wildlife habitat, bank erosion, and history. Rondo and Trent provided a great deal of information. She hopes that new members will be able to attend the float next year. Michele stated that it's not always a float; it could be a bike ride.

Discussion of meeting frequency – Michele explained why ORF went to six meetings a year rather than meeting everyone month. Laney thinks that the other months the subcommittees should meet, and Michele wouldn't have to be the one to take the minutes. Lou said with restructuring of committees there is more time involvement. Fred doesn't think adding more meeting time commitment is good, he's worried about burn out. He wants the board's time to be quantitative over quantity.

Lou suggested a small committee to discuss further the pros and cons. Rondo motioned to set up new committee. Fred second. Lou asked those interested in being on the committee to email him.

There was no further new business.

Old Business –

Trails Completion Committee – Fred talked about the Eddy Development and the trail has been laid and stops before the bridge. Trail will stop at the Skinner property.

Fred added he was at a meeting in the City of Fruita where they discussed the bridge at Hwy 340. He wasn't sure if it would be an overpass or an underpass.

Rondo reviewed Joel's PowerPoint handout and explained what they are looking at on each section to help make it safer for users.

Everyone in the working group agreed that the project would be the next one on list, after the G & 24 Road project and Monument connection is completed. Trent thinks that the project could be completed within the next five years. Joel added that Mesa County wanted to start a conversation on the project but Laura is out until June 22nd. He will send out a Doodle Poll to schedule a meeting in July.

Catherine asked if Bureau of Reclamation has been contacted regarding a trail on the Highline canal. Rondo said trails have been put along canals, one recently in Colorado Springs.

Fred talked about how founding members of the Riverfront Foundation have been trying to complete the trail along the river but unable to get easements. At the first Trails committee meeting, they decide to leave the river for the time being and look to do something similar to what Fruita did.

Jenn talked about project she is working on with Brian Mahoney at Confluence Point. They have met with the Developer who is planning 35 units.

Elementary meeting with Pete for trail after the Eddy Project and partners to building the trail.

Marketing Committee – Lou said the group has been meeting and will be having a meeting soon to work on social media for the concerts.

Round Up – David updated on his conversation with Monumental Beer Works and how expectancy didn't align the first time around. He hopes to have another meeting soon. He also has spoken with Kiln and they are very happy and would like to support in other ways – perhaps coffee for IGA meetings.

Catherine has been doing most of the social media post and George Manning has been helping.

Lou recently visited Bestslope and they've run out of the Riverfront Blend but handed Lou a check for \$1,000.

Rocky Mounts has had a lot of turnover so need to wait and see where the program can go.

Michele said received another donation from Munchies. They faithfully send a check monthly.

Fred said to make sure, if you visit a Round Up partner, you tell them you are with One Riverfront and thank them. Catherine said take pictures for social media.

Laney asked about Handle Bar. Joel talked with them but hasn't followed up. The owner is her tenant, she will talk with him.

Catherine said there is a spreadsheet in the Google Drive, make sure to update anytime you talk or visit with your Round Up business.

Catherine thanked George for all his work on social media. He loves the ideas of the pictures for brief social media posts.

Lou is exploring developing merchandise like caps, t-shirts, etc. Jamie showed what's she's done with iron on decal logos. She had two sizes available if someone wants one.

Education/Partnerships Committee – Jenn agreed to be the chair.

River Corridor Initiative (RCI) – Joel said they received a grant to map the hazards and where the river has been in the past and where it's going in the future.

Urban Trails Committee – Fred attended and said there was a representative from the Horizon Drive District and that they have seating, bike racks, stretching station, art on the bus kiosk, high tech police, maps, looking at striping bike lines, working with Trent and Pete. City is going to get rid of the asphalt by Banana's and replacing with concrete.

Talked about the MicoMobility listening meeting on the 15th and 16th.

Public Comment –

There was no further public comment.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.