

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333
One Riverfront (ORF)

Minutes
October 14, 2024

Called to Order:

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by chair, David Varner. Those present from ORF were:

David Varner, chair (via Google Meets)	Nicole Grider	Jane Quimby
Hayden Jensen	Scott Andrews	Meg Thornton
Joel Sholtes	Nicole Grider	

Also present: Marc Mancuso, Parks and Rec for the City of Fruita, Pete Firmin, Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Michele Rohrbach, ORF staff.

Absent: Stefanie Harville, Alisha Jones, Sarah Brooks, David Coombs

Approval of Minutes – August minutes – Hayden/Jane second. Motion passed.

Announcements – Welcomed new member – Alisha unable to attend.

Monument Trail Phase 2 groundbreaking – October 22nd at 4:30pm – Lunch Loops parking lot

Mesa County Trails Open House – December 4th – more info to follow

IGA meeting – Thursday, December 5th – need ORF member to run meeting – Hayden volunteered

City of Grand Junction’s Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – December 9th

Partner Updates:

City of Grand Junction – Randall unable to attend.

Mesa County – Travis unable to attend.

City of Fruita – Marc talked about signage for getting through the Twin Circles of Death and looking at flashing lights for crossing which Chris is working on it. Have done removal of tamarisk on Little Salt Wash and Kokopelli trail.

Town of Palisade – Troy unable to attend.

Colorado Parks & Wildlife – Pete said they have 90% design on the trail on C ½ at 27 ½ Road. Will have to put in some grates for cleanout so the trail will be closed from time to time. Heinke property trade is moving forward. Interpretative kiosk will move to the MA Constructor easement.

New Business – Nomination for Vice-Chair – David talked about needing someone to help him share the workload. Person will eventually move into the Chair position. ORF members can nominate themselves or someone else until through October 21st. If doing by email, please cc David when email nominations to Michele. Michele will send out nomination list on October 22nd and voting will run through October 31st. Nominee can accept or decline and will need to do an email presentation for board members. Will vote at December meeting. Hayden asked about the term. Michele stated that David has two years after the new year and they would work with David for one year and the next year they would move into the Chair person. Joel asked if the next time could have more time to discuss in real time. Hayden asked what the time commitment would be. David said he'd like people to commit to at least five hours a month. Hayden said he'd be interested. Michele to send out email asking for interest in the position. Nicole is up from hearing from nominees at in person meeting. Hayden proposed nominations by October 31st with a virtual meeting in November, ten minutes per candidate. Decided that November 4th would be virtual meeting. Jane second. Motion passed.

River Corridor Initiative Grant Request – Joel talked about the initiative and that the Riverfront Foundation gave them some seed money in 2020. They have identified gaps and have gone after grant funding and have raised about \$300,000 in funding. The grant request would be for a master plan. Have gone out to all the municipalities for cash match. RCI is looking for \$10,000 from Riverfront Foundation. State would be funding 75% and partners would be adding 25%. Fiscal agent would be RiverEdge West. Timeline – December 1st grant deadline, kick off in 2025 with completion in 2026. Hayden motioned, Nicole second. Motion approved. Will now move onto the RFF's October meeting.

Whiskey Club December event – December 5th at So-Cal. Will need at least four volunteers to help with silent auction and raffle (if decide to have one). Board members will need to help sell tickets to the event which is a fundraiser for the riverfront project. Also, would appreciate it if ORF members could secure some donations for the auction and/or raffle.

City of Grand Junction's Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is December 9th, same night at ORF meeting. Do we want to move ORF meeting to another night or cancel meeting for December? David suggested considering the 9th as the meeting since will be doing the virtual meeting in November. Joel motioned to cancel official December meeting. Hayden second. Motion passed.

Colorado Gives Day is Tuesday, December 10th. Michele will be emailing each board member they call list of 2023 donors along with a sample script. There are a few donors that will need a note mailed since there is no phone number on file. She passed out note cards and addressed, postage paid envelopes to those board members who will need to send note. Stefanie, David C. and Alisha still need their packet.

There was no further new business.

Old Business –

Final version of Roles and Responsibilities – Hayden motioned to approved with revisions made. Jane second. Motion passed.

Committee Updates – Trails Completion – Joel emailed out the minutes around 5:00pm. He stated that they believe there is viable route. There is one more meeting planned to review alternate routes before presenting preferred plan to the public.

MEP Committee – September minutes emailed out with meeting packet. Michele stated she will be asking the RFF for up to \$1,000 in case a CMU Tech student(s) steps up to film PSAs for the “Slow Your Roll” and “On Your Left” campaigns.

Loki – Jane explained her conversation with Seth about doing a project for the Confluence Center. Michele said that Rusty and Jenn were excited but she failed to have one of them reach out to Seth.

Jane also stated she and Sarah haven’t had time to review the aerial maps for problem areas but hopes to do so soon. She asked anyone that knows of “pinch points” on the trail to please let her and Sarah know so they can note on the map.

Still looking into the decal milage marking on the trail but need to determine the cost.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:54pm.