

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Urban Trails Committee

**Minutes
January 14, 2014**

Called to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by co-chair, Biz Collins. Those present from the Committee were:

Biz Collins	Julie Sabin	Eric Marchese
Kristen Heumann	Terri Wenzlaff	Dan Fitzgerald

Also present were Trent Prall, Engineering Manager with the City of Grand Junction, Kathy Portner with City of Grand Junction, Paul Jagen with the City of Grand Junction, Bill Taylor with the Mesa County, Bill Prakken with the Riverfront Foundation (RFF) and Mesa Land Trust, Libby Collins with Mesa Land Trust (MLT), Jody Kliska, public and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes – Julie/Terri. Motion passed.

Announcements – RFC office closed Monday, January 20th for Martin Luther King holiday Michelle Bailey to attend the RFC meeting on January 21st at 5:30pm in Training Room A. Thanked Jody for all her efforts with the UTC, gave her a card and certificate – informed her that her river rock will be coming later

Old Business –

Grand Valley Bikes – Working on Safe Routes to School.

Riverfront Update – Construction on Phase III has started.

Safe Routes to School – Currently conducting school audits and have come up with some resolutions to issues. Working on Bike to School. Need to change behavior, especially parents.

Built Environment – Put together by Mesa County. UTC is a participant.

There was no further old business.

New Business

Trail Matrix – Bill T. did presentation on Decision Matrix that puts out objective criteria of how projects get done. He went out on the web to see what was being done globally and stated that Oregon has a lot going on with a neat set of criteria. He discussed the top 10 projects from the 2035 plan on his matrix. He explained how items are ranked and appear on the matrix list. County will be using the matrix for all enhancement funding.

Julie said the reason she asked Bill to be here so as the Regional Transportation Office (RTPO) works on the 2040 plan that UTC will be knowledgeable in working on the 2040 plan.

Monument Road Book Ends Project – Libby updated the group on the two properties that the MLT is trying to purchase. Total of 63 acres, each on one end of the Three Sisters property. They are now working on a capital campaign to secure funding for the project. Will follow the same model that they used for the Three Sisters property. Purchase and then deed to the City of Grand Junction. Will provide more open space, secure views along Monument Road and provide more family friendly trail opportunities and tying Lunch Loop and South Camp Road into the Riverfront Trail. To date have raised \$673,000 and still need \$122,000. Bill P. stated that MLT will be going to the RFF to ask for \$25,000 grant. He is looking for support from UTC so they can present to the RFF that UTC supports project. Will also be going to the RFC next week to ask for their support. Libby expressed how many organizations work to make things work and the economic impact it has here in the grand valley. Julie motioned to support the Bookends Project with MLT and their grant application. Biz second. Motioned passed.

Bliker – Kathy updated about the Bliker process to work towards consent. She has spoken with them for training to help get the UTC Master Plan passed. Anna Marie suggested doing a 2 ½ day training but Kathy doesn't think most UTC members can devote 2 ½ days for training. Kathy said that several City staff have been through the training and that they would be happy to work with UTC. Kathy stated she has heard that the County will be passing some kind of Master Plan in first quarter but doesn't sound like UTC will be included in that process. Kathy reminded the group that there is an approved plan and they could work on their list working on what is already in the City's right-of-way. Trent said maybe leave the current plan in place and work closely with him, Kathy and Paul to implement the priority items. Trent also believes if the Build Environment group goes before the City Council to discuss importance and funding that group could help.

Julie asked if members would be interested in Grand Valley Master Trails Plan. Group discussed have training/work session before Ken is asked to attend. Julie will call him and postpone until later in the year.

Biz motioned to begin training/work session at 5:00pm with the City at the February meeting.

Built Environment – Kristen updated on what the Build Environment is working on and that Spencer is having GIS study map areas.

Development Review – tabled until next month.

Drainage District Update – Dan and Terri said nothing more to add other than the City has been very helpful in working with them to help them understand the process.

Biz thanked for the ped counter info and asked if she could post the info on the Grand Valley Bikes website. Asked if will be getting future updates, Jody said she would if she still has access and Paul said he'd work on it.

Julie said the following items have been added to the 2035 list:

Nisley, Thunder Mountain, 38 Road, Hwy 340,
Eric would like to see more education for motorist.

Dan suggested having the paper run rules of the road and letters to the editor. Kathy suggested trying to get an op-ed article published.

Public Comment – Jody said she attended the meeting with the Daily Sentinel last Thursday for the biking magazine to get more road biking info rather than just mountain biking but it appears it will still be more directed towards mountain biking.

Colorado Bike Summit is February 10th and 11th in Denver. Next month will discuss the next Walking and Biking Summit. Previously discussed having one in the fall.

Adjournment – 6:50pm.