

**GRAND JUNCTION/MESA COUNTY  
RIVERFRONT COMMISSION MEETING  
MARCH 17, 1992**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Those present from the Commission:

Bill Ela	R.T. Mantlo
Jim Robb	Pat Gormley
Jane Quimby	Brad Loucks
Brian Mahoney	Rebecca Frank
Ken Nesbitt	Bill Graham
Ward Scott	Jim Spehar
Jim Baughman	Lynn James

Also present: Betsy Weldon, Oby Blanchard, Kathy Portner, Dick Fletcher, Kurt Mill, JoAnn Ridder, Pat Parsons, Peter Urie, Roger Moore, Suzanne Williams, Clayton Dause, Wayne H. Wright, Stephanie Schmid.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of February 18, 1992 were approved as submitted.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### Ratification of Administrative Assistant Position

Approximately 90 applications were received, from which 6 finalists were chosen for interviews. The committee recommends the Commission hire Stephanie Schmid.

Motion: Ela/Mantlo to accept the recommendation of the committee and hire Stephanie Schmid as the Administrative Assistant.

Motion was approved.

##### Update on Colorado Trail Symposium

Kathy Portner gave an update on the State Trails Symposium to be held in Grand Junction April 30, May 1 and 2. Commission members are encouraged to attend all or some of the sessions. Several field trips are planned to show-off the Colorado River Project. Watson Island dedication will be on May 1st at noon in conjunction with the Symposium.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Earth Day Celebration

Jane Quimby suggested the Riverfront Commission formally request \$500.00 from the Colorado Riverfront Foundation to be used for prize money for the junk sculpture contest.

Motion: Gormley/Ela requesting \$500.00 from the Colorado Riverfront Foundation for prize money for the junk sculpture contest.

Motion was approved.

Jessee Minkler will organize the event.

### GO Colorado

Rebecca Frank reported that the final ballot language to fund GO Colorado has been filed and an informational campaign will be starting soon. The proposal is to reclaim the lottery funds for parks and recreation purposes.

The new federal Highway Act also provides funding for alternative modes of transportation and enhancement.

### County Reviews

Brian Mahoney reported that he had responded to two county reviews, one for Whitewater Sand & Gravel's proposal for the Connected Lakes area and the other for a PUD on S. Broadway.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### Trails

R.T. Mantlo will be in contact with Jeff Williams about land acquisitions for the Blue Heron Trails. The Bureau of Reclamation is working on base mapping for the area.

### Parks

Ken Nesbitt reported that concrete is being poured for the trail on Watson Island. Bud Franz gave an update on the co-mingled waste issue. The Colorado Department of Health is considering alternatives for them to deal with it rather than DOE. They are getting close to a solution.

On March 28th a group of Mesa College students are going to be stacking and loading tires on the old Lewis and Dunn properties as a fund raiser for the Lung Association. City crews will also be available with heavy equipment. The Board of Realtors also want to do another clean-up. Jim Spehar mentioned there is a special landfill at 2 Road specifically for tires. He said he would look into whether county lottery funds could be used to dispose of some of the tires.

The Girl Scouts would also like to help with a clean-up on April 25th. Ken Nesbitt offered the use of some of his trucks to take some of the tires to Connected Lakes to be used for fish habitat.

Kurt Mills reported that Watchable Wildlife panels will be up in time for the State Trails Symposium. Also, the Corps of Engineer's 404 permit for work at Corn Lake by State Parks is out for review.

Bill Graham reported that the materials for the kiosk at Connected Lakes has been secured and the structure will be completed the first part of April.

The design for Connected Lakes Phase II has started. Construction should start in the Fall.

A grant request has been made to the State Forest Service for trees at the Junior Service League Park.

#### Administration

Nothing to report.

#### Operations

A meeting has been scheduled with all of the potential maintenance and security entities to discuss who's doing what on the trail system.

#### Intergovernmental

Betsy Weldon was introduced as the new ex-officio member from Palisade. She will be the unofficial representative until the new board in Palisade is elected and officially appoints her. It was also reported that Palisade is considering selling the golf course property. Bill Ela has been in contact with Rick Marcus was assured that a 15' easement for the trail would be reserved. However, 15' will not be enough.

Jim Baughman reported that the City owned Riverfront property has been fenced to deter illegal dumping. He also updated the Commission on the Master Plan of Parks and the South Downtown/Riverside/El Poso Plans.

Finance

Nothing to report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The March of Dimes Walk-a-thon will be on the River Trail.

Suzanne Williams is finalizing the newsletter.

Kathy Portner informed the Commission that there would be a tree planting day at Blue Heron Lake in conjunction with the Earth Day celebration. The State Forest Service is coordinating it and the trees and shrubs have been donated. Those groups planting the trees will also water and maintain the trees through the summer.

Brian Mahoney introduced Stephanie Schmid, the new Riverfront Administrative Assistant.

Jane Quimby thanked Roger Moore for the letter he sent out updating the project and asking for equipment for the new Riverfront office.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.