

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333

Urban Trails Committee

Minutes
May 13, 2014

Called to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:40pm by co-chair, Biz Collins. Those present from the Committee were:

Julie Sabin	Dr. Terri Wenzlaff	Eric Marchese
Biz Collins	Dr. Kristen Heumann	Michelle Bailey
Dan Fitzgerald		

Also present were Brad Taylor with the Riverfront Commission (RFC), Kayla Dodson, public, Kathy Portner, Trent Prall and Paul Jagim with the City of Grand Junction and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes – Terri/Julie. Motion approved.

Announcements – Kristen to attend the RFC 5/20 meeting.

RFC office closed on Monday, May 26th.

IGA float trip Friday, June 6th

Concert Series Schedule is out – June 12th, July 17th, August 14th

May 21st at the City Council meeting – Safe Routes to School will be discussed (CDBG)

Biz would like to put Development Review back on rotation – Michele will do the usual alphabetically – Michelle Bailey will be first up.

Julie stated Phyllis Norris who was at last meeting is now the City of GJ Mayor.

Biz wrote a letter for Kristen to attend Regional Institute for ? . Proposal working on will focus on pilot projects of how to get kids to school – Dos Rios and Wingate. (Trent, Kathy, Kristen, Shane with Mesa County Health Department and Susana Wittcock with District 51).

Old Business -

Prioritized List Update – Julie talked about the Urban Bikeway Design Guide. Thinks could be discussed in more detail at later meetings.

Eric talked about the email list that was emailed out before the meeting. Everyone liked the format and layout he came up. He commented that it's a living document and will be constantly changing. He talked about the tier system and the number 1 – 3.

Group continued working on the priority list.

Tier 1 – Eric agrees with what the City has down for 1st Street. Does the group want to consider adding 7th and 12th and Grand for the same?

Talked about the Accident Report that Jody emailed out about bike/sidewalk accidents. Need to get the bicyclists off the sidewalks to bring the number of accidents (50%) down.

Trent likes what Eric has but stated that some of them will be very difficult to implement. Especially 7th Street. Eric said he understands road diet isn't necessarily feasible but what about more signage or sharrows. Education of drivers and cultural difference. Talked about re-engineering of roads. Kristen asked about 7th Street if the land is purchased by Colorado Mesa University (CMU) would they be required to make the sidewalks wider. Kathy stated CMU doesn't go through the City of GJ for development review but that Kristin could help make it happen.

Orchard Avenue (29th to Mesa Mall) real bike lanes and sidewalks. Primarily what's missing is 29 Road to Normandy which will be a tough fix. There is no right-of-way and the homes are right up to the street. Is definitely a Tier 1 project.

Horizon Drive, Independents Ditch and Ranch Mans Ditch – Trent said he's received two phone calls as to why there isn't a sidewalk from 25 Road to Barnes and Noble.

I-70 Business to Redlands Parkway – road diet, Canyon View Park and get people to riverfront trail. Need to add detached path along Leech Creek.

Orchard Mesa overpass – closing

1 ½ stretch along C ½ Road – interim solution of signage isn't going to solve the dangerous crossing at 29th – need to be able to go under 29th Road. Plans in work for parking lot.

Dan asked what happens with the list once it's done. Biz asked Kathy what would be the best way to get the information to City Council. Kathy said she, Trent and Paul need to discuss how they will need to handle for future planning. She believes that UTC could talk to GVIC and RTPPO for 2040 planning tie in with the plan. Valuable having Kathy, Trent and Paul's input in the process.

Kathy talked about having a spot on the City's website for the UTC and the list could be accessed. The UTC's Master Trails Plan is also posted on the City's website. Need to work on a users map (bike map).

There was no further old business.

New Business

RFC strategic plan – Brad Taylor gave a history on the connection between the RFC and UTC over the years. Last year's retreat was just RFC, RFF and UTC members and out of that came the need for a strategic plan. Will be adopting at the next RFC meeting. Came up with a vision, a new mission statement, business plan and marketing plan. There is a lack of ownership from the public to work that has been done to date. Working on update the website with YouTube page and more interactive donation page. Brad talked about the VCB front line employees at the hospitality open house last week and that many of the attendees were unaware of all that there

was to offer in the grand valley. Michele to send all UTC members after RFC adopts. Michelle asked if Brad could come and do presentation to the UTC.

Discussed the UTC interview process will be handled this year. Not sure until hear back from Stephanie Tuin with City of Grand Junction as to which direction it will go.

Talked about the relationship of the RFC and UTC and that UTC isn't really a subcommittee but more of a partner or sibling.

Biz and Julie have worked on a strategic plan for UTC.

Communication and Strategy – Biz talked about what had been emailed out earlier. Michelle suggested putting together a committee to work on this outside of the regular meeting time. Michelle sees that the communication could be part of the strategic plan that is being worked. Biz said she'd be happy to email her draft of the strategic plan with the RFC's draft plan.

Op Ed did go out – haven't seen any negative in the paper. County Commissioner Steve Acquafresca had a positive comment and so did former UTC member Mark Williams, called Michele and was pleased with what was in the paper.

There was no further new business.

Public Comment – Kayla said she likes the priority list.

Adjournment – 7:05pm.