

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333

Urban Trails Committee

Minutes
January 13, 2015

Called to Order

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

Biz Collins Eric Marchese Jeff Kuhr Dan Fitzgerald

Also present were Kathy Portner with City of Grand Junction, Dr. Terri Wenslaff - public, Trent Prall with the City of Grand Junction, Bennett Boeschstein, City of GJ Council Member, Vera Korsella with the Horizon Drive Business Improvement District - public, Jeffrey Fleming, architectural control committee of the Ridges - public and Michele Rohrbach.

Thanked Kathy for providing pizza.

Approval of Minutes – Dan/Eric. Motion pass.

Announcements –

Jeffrey Fleming gave a brief history of the Ridges architectural control committee and brought a map of the trails within the Ridges. He would like to get some of their trails recognized as part Urban Trails. Suggestion made for him to leave his map and then get with Kathy Portner before the next meeting so can get proposed trails into the GIS.

Mayor Norris asked Vera to attend the UTC meeting and asked them to propose the Horizon Drive trail in back of the hotels to the Country Club (originally proposed back in the early 90's) so UTC can bring back to the City Council. Bennett stated it's too late to get this project in the 2015 CIP budget but should bring to the City Council in the UTC priority list and try for the 2016 CIP budget. Most of the businesses are in favor of the trail and considering donating easements to make it happen. Will need to figure out how to mitigate the chance of walkers and riders being hit with golf balls.

Terri asked about the cost since businesses would be donating easements. Trent listed what costs would need to be covered – probably about \$500,000 in not having to purchase right of way, \$600,000 if need to purchase right of way.

Biz told everyone about the Public Meeting on February 5th for the US 6 Clifton Transportation Study.

Old Business -

Bylaws – Kathy passed around the final bylaws. She explained the changes from the revised bylaws reviewed in November to what was approved by the City Council in December. The

City Clerk will be advertising for two more members; will close at the end of the month. Members are to think about what qualifications and skills are needed and get them to Biz and Julie so they can get a letter back to Stephanie. Eric mentioned PR/media skills and website capabilities.

Prioritized Safe Routes to Schools – Biz passed around a map with the schools for the members to review. Terri has been walking around all of the schools for the past three weeks. She said that the new subdivisions have done a great job of getting the kids to school safely, was as the older neighborhoods have issues. City has employee that is working on an electronic map of what's in place (not wish list) for students to use to get to school safely.

Biz asked about the City's list. Trent talked about the two he sent to Michele in November, Pomona and ?. Kathy said it would be beneficial if Terri could get what they've done to her so she can organize it for the next meeting. CBG funding list could be derived from the map. Members picked schools that they will go walk and make notes on maps and get back to the group at next meeting.

Strategic Plan – Biz passed around a draft strategic plan. Terri polished it up and made it more action oriented rather than sitting on a shelf until it's time to update. Biz asked everyone to read and review and get back with comments.

Bike Friendly Community Designation – Biz said application is due February 16. Trent said he believes there may be a little more time because the February 16th date is to become a review. Trent, Kathy, Kristen, Julie, Biz and Eric are working on the application. Discussed the level of designation and that Trent believes GJ could qualify for Silver or Gold. Group will schedule another meeting now that Kristen will be back in town. Trent said the submittal date is February 11th rather than the 16th so group needs to get a move on finishing up the application.

There was no further old business.

New Business –

RFC meeting attendance – Biz explained how the UTC would send a member to the RFC meeting on a monthly basis. Julie felt it would be more beneficial if went to quarterly schedule and have a RFC member attend UTC to update them since UTC is no longer under the RFC. Board likes quarterly schedule and having RFC attend UTC meetings.

Bennett showed group old "Bicycle Route" map that was printed years ago and he said that the City has the funds to have the map updated and reprinted. Kathy will check into an electronic version for everyone to review.

Biz mentioned that the first Bicycle to Work/Bike Month meeting is coming up soon.

Jeff said he thinks the UTC needs to own the Strategic Plan and that perhaps should be having a later meeting that this is the only topic for discuss.

Dan said he'd like to see more training on the Development Review. Kathy said the City has staff to help UTC with the process. Bennett said that developers get credit for park and open space if they build or donate the land for the trail.

Trail Summit presentation and recruitment – Biz talked about the trail summit coming up on March 13th of this year. She did Power Point presentation of the 2015 program. Ralph Becker, President of the National League of Cities & Mayor of Salt Lake City. Clark Anderson of New Mobility West will be speaking at lunch

Kathy added that the City will be paying for any UTC members wanting to attend. Please let Michele know so she can let Kathy know so City can register members.

Biz asked everyone to forward the Save the Date email list and hang in break room and present to any service groups. Get the word out via Facebook and likes. Direct to Healthy Mesa County website to register. Looking to get more general public interested in attending.

There was no further new business.

Public Comment – Bennett said the DOE and Incubator are very interested in a bridge over the Gunnison. He hopes the UTC can bring it before the City Council since there are 300 people that work at the location. He said a temporary bridge may be coming available from a bridge replacement across the Delores River.

Adjournment – Adjourned at 7:05pm.