

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Urban Trails Committee

**Minutes
March 10, 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	Julie Sabin	Eric Marchese
Jeff Kuhr, Ph.D	Dr. Kristen Heumann	

Also present Kathy Portner with City of Grand Junction, Dr. Terri Wenslaff, public, Vera Korsella with the Horizon Drive Business Improvement District, public, Jo Kissinger, public, Libby Collins with Mesa Land Trust, Trent Prall with the City of Grand Junction and Michele Rohrbach.

Thanked Jeff with the Health Department for providing pizza.

Approval of Minutes – Julie/Jeff. Motion passed.

Announcements –

Old Business –

Update on Prioritized Safe Routes to Schools presented to City Council – Biz said that the presentation at the City Council Workshop went well and well received by Council Members. Presented four top schools because wasn't sure if all the top schools would qualify for the CBG funding. Thanked UTC members that were able to attend.

Mayor Norris accepted the Mayor Challenge. She'd do it but won't ride a bike. Biz has a list of what is involved in the challenge. Kathy said need to get a good handle on the number of people walking and biking now. (April meeting watching webinar).

Kathy said need to have a formal proclamation to kick it off. Biz mentioned Stand Up for Transportation.

Review revisions of the Strategic Plan – Biz said not too many changes from the last draft the group reviewed in January. She said ideally need to adopt so UTC can move towards the check marked goals. Kathy said she was able to move some of them under other strategies making in more concise and shorter. Move 4 to ?, and 5 to 3.

Biz wondered if the “off street paths” on page one – is there a better choice of words. Group said that the phrase is fine.

Biz asked about group rides and liability. Jeff thinks the Health Department could get an insurance rider to make the group rides happen. Kathy and Jeff said they would check into the legality.

Kathy said she has concerns with actions and objective/strategic. Feels need to tighten up the objectives with detailed, timeline actions. Kathy suggested the group should think about the specific actions the UTC wants to achieve this year.

Thanked Terri for all of her hard work in putting the actions and objectives list for the group. Terri raised question of the length of time for this strategic plan – Kathy said not more than five years.

Kathy said need to clean up the 2001 UTC Master Plan Map that is acceptable and meaningful. Fort Collins calls their plan a Walking and Biking Plan. Threw out numerous thoughts on new name for map that reflects more of what the map really is rather than what it has been in the past.

Bike to School Month – Biz said this will take place in May.

Bike Month is June – Bike to Work Day is the last Wednesday in June. If UTC wants to be group need to choose color. Eric wants green.

UTC to potentially sponsor an event for Bike Month. Kristen said to look at the list of Bicycle Friendly application and see what was missing and see if can make it happen. Kathy and Jeff said they might have funds to help with speaker fees. Biz is going to put the group on the beginning of the month, activity to be further discussed.

User map – Biz said she's emailed all the collection of maps Julie has been collecting from other communities. Eric is interested and need one more person to help him with it (Jeff said he'd be happy to help and he volunteered Chelsea to help with layout and design) so can have it ready by the Bike Month.

There was no old business.

New Business – Monument Road Update – Libby updated what Mesa Land Trust (MLT) has done with the Three Sisters Project and the Bookends Project and tying those trails into the Riverfront Trail. She explained their vision for the Monument Road trail and what needs to be done and what the community would like to see. Preserve cultural and scenic heritage. Responsibility to all Generations, Collaboration. Protect, Build, Preserve, And Connect.

Libby said that on the last day that Trent took the consultants and engineers of the workshop, and a large group of folks including the owner of the “water tower” property owner from Aspen up Monument Road and showed them what and where a trail made sense, tentatively calling the “The Redlands Loop”. Consultants, Aspen owner and landscape designers were very impressed with what is already on the ground and said the message is more about loops than connectivity.

Two properties identified at the workshop that would be needed to make the connection to form a loop. MLT is currently in preliminary talks with the landowners.

Biz stated that need to show cars on Monument Road along the vision of the trail.

Kathy suggested it would be beneficial for the City to adopt a resolution for the Monument Road Vision to help with going for funding. UTC should recommend that the City Council adopt the resolution for the Monument Road Vision.

Mesa LandTrust.org/publications – all UTC members to review before next meeting so action can be taken at April meeting.

April 11th MLT will be doing a trail building with a beerbeque after the trail building.

Kristen gave a presentation of the Salt River Project in Arizona. Currently have 57 miles of completed miles of paths. One side is paved and one side is unpaved.

Public Comment – There was no public.

Adjournment – Adjourned at 7:15pm.