

**RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
245-0045**

**Minutes of Meeting
January 19, 1999**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair, Pat Kennedy at 7:30pm. Those present were:

Paul Nelson	Jeanette Main-Goecke
Pat Kennedy	Mark Gardener
John Heideman	Paul Jones
Dusty Dunbar	Russ Walker
Lenna Watson	Bill Findlay

Also present were Bob Cron, Joe Stevens, Catherine Robertson, Bennett Boeschstein, Elvis Guin, Brad Taylor, Jack Yates, Robert Traylor, Monica Atkinson, Gary Lacy, five guests and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes

Mark motioned to approve the minutes, Russ second. Motion passed.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Old Business

Pat informed the members that he received a fax for the ad hoc committee for canal bank issues. The committee is dealing with a company called BBC Research and Consulting. A mail survey has been put together for property owners, a telephone survey of residents of Grand Junction (400 people will be contacted), survey for various other communities and canal companies around the state that have similar situations as Grand Junctions.

Paul mentioned that he and Pat meet with Leah Lee's fifth grade elementary class of Taylor Elementary School in Palisade. The student wrote letters regarding what they heard was going to happen to Riverbend Park. The students are doing lots of science projects, they placed birdhouses out - however, someone stole them, they placed pinecones with peanut butter and bird seeds for the birds. Paul and Pat explained that the Riverfront Commission didn't have anything to do what happened to the park - that was

up to the Town of Palisade. The letters were also sent onto GOCO - Bob informed GOCO to send the letters back the Town of Palisade.

Jack Yates added that he met with the students prior to Paul and Pat. He added that the teacher wasn't familiar with what the plans for the park were and that after meeting with the students their opinions were then mixed from the original letters.

Gary Lacy passed around documents regarding the four possible sites for the proposed whitewater river park. He presented his facts, findings and recommendations for each site and then answered questions.

Paul was asked what the next step was. He felt that everyone needs to read the report, look at the costs, Legacy partners may be interested in including one or more suggested sites in the next round of grant money. Match money will need to be found. There is still several issues that are up in the air and need to be looked at further.

Bob suggested that the Green Mountain coalition, the three communities and the Riverfront Commission all meet and reach a consensus and go from there.

Jeanette motioned to pay Gary per his statement. Dusty second, motion passed. Paul gave Gary the first installment of the agreement amount.

There was no further old business.

New Business

Cliff Davidson with the MPO was unable to attend due to illness.

There was no further new business.

Committee Reports

Fruita Update - Bennett updated everyone about the Old Fruita Bridge, expect to open to pedestrians and bicyclists in the spring. There will be a celebration - hoping for National Trails Day. A lot still going on with the State Park. Fruita is working with BLM to preserve Snooks Bottom as permanent open space. The Kings View river bottom is going to be deeded over to Fruita in the next few months. It is Bennett's understanding that the Refinery has deeded 80 acres along the Colorado River to the County which has deeded it to State Parks. John Mansville 50 foot strip should be happening in the next month. Just finished traffic calming/bicycle pedestrian plan and developed a trails map that intersects the Urban Trails plan in Grand Junction. The Independent Ranchmens Ditch is the biggest ditch running diagonally through Fruita. It could be put into a pipe and then it would be a wonderful trail, linking several subdivisions and the area schools.

Brad added that design development plans for state park have not yet been finalized completely. Should go out to bid within the next month. Should break ground this spring.

Palisade Update - Working on plans for the fishing is fun project which includes a pier, the restroom, walk way from the parking lot. Wildlife Department is working on what to do with the pond - improvements and stocking. Have been told will be stocking with Rainbow Trout. Have a pending offer for a picnic pavilion, would like to be restrooms next to the pavilion. Need to be doing more maintenance and get more trash barrels in the park. Volunteers from Outdoors Colorado will be coming and working on trails. Looking to form a Recreation Committee - probably have a full time recreation person, this person will be over the other recreation positions already in place. Also looking at getting the old high school and turning it into a Civic Center.

Urban Trails Committee - Robert Traylor informed everyone about what's happening with UTC. At the December Retreat goals were set and prioritized. Members were assigned to one of three committees, Canal Banks, Community Awareness and Master Plan. Explained what each committee was planning for the upcoming year.

Legacy Update - Palisade High School has filtering pond completed. Botanical Society is raising money for the circle drive. The City parking lot has been moved over to where the composting area was. Jarvis Trail design is complete, cost is substantially higher than originally estimated. Will be going out to bid in the spring. GOCO schedule for Legacy project is February 8th for proposal. There is a February 3rd Steering Committee meeting to review draft, Thursday draft will be revised and Friday will mail to GOCO. GOCO Board will be determining how much will go to existing projects and how much will go to new projects. GOCO will be doing on site visits in April. Decision will be made in May.

There is an initiative proposed by the President of more adequate funding of Land and Water Conservation Fund Act which was passed 30 years ago. Federal initiative may provide some opportunities on the river.

Safety Committee Update - Wrapped up little projects. Group decided at January meeting to go to quarterly meeting and will be meeting at noon. Next meeting will be April 1st.

Public Comment

Paul Jones added that Lenna recently completed the Citizens Police Academy. Lenna said she learned a lot and recommended it to others.

Russ mentioned that he contacted everyone that were interested in educational center. Everyone thought it would be fun and useful. He will be setting up a meeting for each group interested. Lenna said Urban Trails should be added.

Bob added that the field trip didn't appear on the agenda and was just checking on what's happening. Pat and Paul said they hadn't thought about it. Paul had done some checking on a DC-3 but won't be ready for another year. Paul suggested sometime in March before spring break. Everyone thought the 13th sounded okay. Looking at 8:30am or 9am. It will be a tour of the missing links and places where people haven't been.

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm.