

**RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
245-0045**

**Minutes of Meeting
October 19, 1999**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair, Lenna Watson at 7:35pm. Those present were:

Pat Kennedy	Lenna Watson
Paul Nelson	Mark Gardner
Paul Jones	Dusty Dunbar
Bill Findlay	John Heideman
Russ Walker	

Also present were Brad Taylor, Bob Cron, Elvis Guin, Robert Traylor, Lon Carpenter and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes

Bob Cron stated there was a correction on the last page regarding Eagle Rim contract awarded to, it should read "Mayes Concrete".

Paul Nelson stated that if anyone hasn't seen Eagle Rim under construction - they should. A lot of earth is being moved.

Motion passed.

Announcements

Colorado Riverfest 2000 brown bag lunch meeting has been moved to Wednesday, November 3rd. It's still at 12 noon here at the Riverfront office. All interested persons are encouraged to attend.

Lenna informed the group that she went before the Mesa County Lottery Commission for Judy Kennedy (she's on vacation) to present her grant application for the Old Spanish Trail. The Lottery Commission did have a few questions that Lenna was unable to answer. Lenna referred the questions onto Judy and Judy will get back with the Lottery Commission when she returns from vacation.

Lenna thanked everyone that attended the breakfast meeting with the City and County. Lenna updated everyone on what was discussed and the follow up on some of the topics. She has tried to reach Carl Zimmerman regarding the “mud flats” on the Jarvis property. Lenna invited him to the meeting tonight, however he was unable to. She will continue to reach him by phone.

Bob added that the Jarvis property is City property. The City has an agreement with US Fish and Wildlife with regard to their project. There is an EPA grant for \$50,000 to help with vegetation replanting on the site. Joe Stevens wasn't at the meeting and Mark Achen was unaware of any agreement. Lenna will follow up and report back.

Paul Jones updated the group about his task force on the Rendering Plant. He's currently working on scheduling a meeting and trying to talk with the organizations and associations in Delta, Olathe and Montrose. He also met with the brother and two sisters at the rendering plant. Paul said the brother wants to keep the plant open and remain in Mesa County, however, the sisters want to get out of the business.

Bob recommended that the Riverfront Commission doesn't get in front of the City on this project. Tim Woodmansee is working on an option for the property. Bob suggested contacting the attorney for the family - Bill Frye. He reminded everyone that the Riverfront Commission was contacted by the Rendering Plant owners not the other way around. RFC needs to educate the public on the West Slope about what will happen if the business goes away and that the Rendering Plant owners contacted the Riverfront Commission, the Riverfront is working as a facilitator.

Pat read the group a letter from the Daily Sentinel stating that the riverfront trails have been voted the very best by local readers.

He also stated that the Riverfront co-chairs have been invited to this years El Pomar Awards banquet on November 18th. Michele will contact them to see if it really is a dinner instead of a luncheon.

Old Business

Mark updated the group on the soft trail around Blue Heron Lake. He said he and Russ met down there and walked around the area and Russ brought Mark up to speed on where his class was on the survey of the fish habitat. Russ said he believes that they could get it finished up in time for the next round of GOCO money. Dusty completed maps with parcel numbers and ownership on it for use in researching easements. Bob added that it looks like there are very few owners, most of the property is owned by the City and City Market. Lenna suggested that Mark contact Jr. Service League about attending a meeting and informing them about the new efforts down in that area. Lenna will try and schedule a meeting with the group and get back with Mark, Russ and Dusty.

Pat said he received a call from Thea Chase with the Enterprise Zone. She and Les Smith with Bray and Company have been talking on the piece of property along the Blue Heron II trail. Les represents the new buyers and they are willing to grant the RFC the easement. Pat referred her onto Brian Mahoney. Will update the group when hear more.

There was no further old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Committee Reports

Fruita Update - Bennett was unable to attend. Brad stated that they are moving right along on the new state park.

Palisade Update - Elvis stated that they are looking for a new City Manager. He said that they were unable to put the new sewage lagoon where they wanted so they moved it and now they have two ponds in the park.

Urban Trails Committee - Robert said that the Canal Banks committee has started a draft proposal for recreational use of the canal banks. Have set a meeting with Mark Achen and Dan Wilson to discuss the proposal and get their comments. Will present the proposal to RFC in final form. He stated what was covered in the draft - feasibility and why it can be done, implementation and how it can be done, and it discussing when and where it can be done. Pat added that Janet Terry stated that a pilot project probably wasn't the way to go but instead doing it in phases. Robert is trying to get the City to see if they can give him maps and documents of ownership along the canal banks.

Working on permanent signing for the Tour of the Valley routes so people will use them as permanent bike routes. Continue to revise the bike route map, a copy will appear in the 2000 phone book.

Robert said that he ran into Judge Ela and the Judge reminded him about an agreement that was drafted with the canal company in Palisade. Robert and Michele were going to look for the document.

Legacy Update - Bob stated that the Fruita State Park is coming along nicely. Fred Bohlmann is leaving and going to be park manager at Stage Coach. Eagle Rim is moving along. Back in Fruita there is now a trail from the Trading Post on 340 on the east side, down to the mobile home park where it will turn and go over to the Old Fruita Bridge. The final contract on the Old Fruita Bridge has been let and work should be done early this winter. Fruita is also working on land acquisitions along Little Salt Wash close to the Colorado River. Working on appraisal for Snooks Bottom. Botanic Gardens is installing a new fence - work being done by the Job Corp. The design is done for the amphitheater,

sensory garden and the children's' garden. Work should be starting soon. Bob reminded everyone that there is substantial need for vegetation removal along the Blue Heron I and Blue Heron II trails. Thinks it would be a great volunteer project. Lenna volunteered John and he agreed to help set up a volunteer project. Lenna told him to contact her husband Steve and Don Hobbs with the City.

Safety Committee - Will be having safety meeting on Thursday. Dusty has been on the phone with Judy Kennedy about Colorado Riverfest 2000 and wants the Safety Committee to embrace a project for next years celebration. Will continue dialogue on permanent toilet along the trail. Pat added that the trails have been resealed and the yellow lines are now gone. Dusty will talk to Greg with the County on getting stripes back onto the trails. Gerry with UTC talked with Dusty about the trails host program and extending it to the canal banks project.

Public Comment

Lon Carpenter introduced himself and said he's looking to become more involved.

Elvis stated that lots of little boys have appeared at the new pond to fish and raft. He saw a little boy fly fishing on the old pond the other day all by himself wearing life vest. He's parents wouldn't let he down there without the vest.

Brad added that there will be a fund-raiser for the Colorado Riverfront Foundation on October 30th with a run being done by Harding Larson. There will be tee shirts available for \$10 each. Early registration is \$7 and \$10 for day of the race. Michele has applications if anyone is interested.

Russ asked about the use of the river forum. Paul N. said they have had one meeting which was attended by the sheriff, City, all state representatives, state parks, BLM and Riverfront co-chairs. Researching current legislature and will be holding another meeting with date and time to be determined at a later time.

There was no further public comment.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.