

**RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
245-0045**

**Minutes of Meeting
April 18,2000**

Call to Order

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

Pat Kennedy	Lenna Watson
Paul Nelson	Judy Kennedy
Russ Walker	Mark Gardner
Bill Findlay	Dusty Dunbar

Also present were Bob Cron, Elvis Guin, Catherine Robertson, Brad Taylor, Jim Baughman and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes

Judy commented that under Colorado Riverfest 2000 - it should read roller blade club.

Judy motioned to approve minutes. Lenna second. Motion passed.

Announcements

May meeting will be in Fruita - Michele is still working out all the details. Watch next month's agenda.

Intergovernmental meeting will be on Thursday at the BLM office at 7am. Float trip will be June 2nd. Catherine said she's thinking of floating Ruby Canyon (Loma to Westwater).

Old Business

Paul said he heard on the radio that the City of Grand Junction has hired a consultant to review the trail sliding off the side off the hill at Orchard Mesa Middle School and the Old Mill Bridge.

There was no further old business.

Pat talked about Dan Burden (Walkable Communities workshop) who was here April 6th and 7th. During dinner on Thursday night, Dan suggested that the Riverfront Commission and/or Urban Trails host another workshop in which the elected officials, bankers, Realtors and developers are encouraged to attend. Appears October and November would be a good time for these different groups.

Have received a letter from Jeanette stating she will not be re-upping her term at the end of June.

County has hired a new planner, his name is Kurt Larsen. Palisade has hired a new Town Manager, his name is John Alder.

Lenna reminded everyone about the Grand Valley Music Festival concert on Tuesday, April 25th, starts at 7:30pm at Grand Junction High School.

There was no further new business.

Committee Reports

Fruita Update - Have a new City Engineering and he is working on the structural problem with the Fruita bridge. Have new members on the Planning Commission and City Council. Looking forward to the new State Park opening.

Palisade Update - Elvis stated that the Mesa County Land Conservancy has moved upstairs in the bank building. Currently looking for another staff person to handle small agricultural conservancy (East Orchard Mesa and Fruita). They are also looking for a marketing person. Recently looking at properties in Fruita area.

Urban Trails Committee - Birgit is working on putting together a series of bicycle safety courses this summer. She's working with getting items to give away to the kids. Will have a meeting with GJPD, Sheriff's Department and Parks and Rec Dept. in May. Canal project is moving along. Bill and Robert are working with Dan Wilson on getting agreement put together. Have already mapped out a trail around Trails West Subdivision. Will be doing one-on-one meeting with landowners after agreement is ready. Working on reviewing new subdivisions to make sure they are using Urban Trails Master Plan and canal banks for connections.

Legacy Update - Bob has been contacted by Phil Helfrich in Montrose. They are working on a greenway project for Montrose - he may attend next Legacy meeting. Eagle Rim Park will be open and dedicated on July 1st. Blue grass festival will be there on July 30th. Doug

New Business

Cline has told Bob that the new section of trail by Riverside Park will be completed in time for dedication on June 3rd. State Parks has purchased 32 acre parcel above the Colorado River between 18 and 19 Road. Audubon Society has received approval from Mesa County to lease the land for future building site. DOW has some money left over from the Watchable Wildlife part of the Legacy project. Will be partnering with the Audubon Society to do some interpretative signs and blinds. Mesa County Land Conservancy has purchased their first orchard through Legacy. Bob talked about groups approaching him to write grants - per his job description this isn't really a part of his duties. Legacy partners have agreed to allow Bob to work on two current projects, soft path and tamarisk. Any other grants will need to be approved by Legacy partners and must fall within the GOCO guidelines.

Soft Path - Mark has spoken with Joe Stevens with Parks Department. Joe thought they could use City crew to do prep work when crew is slow. Still looking for a group or organization to adopt for maintenance (possibility Jr. Service League). Mark will be meeting with Joe to get a better feel for what the City wants. Mark is also looking into various volunteer groups to help with building the trail.

Rendering Plant - Paul J. was unable to attend, however, he gave Michele an update before the meeting. Paul has spoken with Alan Workman - Mel, Sr. is not well and probably will not live much longer. Mel, Jr. is also in bad health. Paul will just keep doing what he's doing and keep in touch.

Tamarisk Coalition - John was not here. Paul N. said that at a recent Rotary meeting the Partners group was there and explained what their project is and that they training crews that will be for hire for area organizations projects.

Colorado Riverfest 2000 Committee - Judy thanked Paul, Dusty and Russ for taking care of the April and May activities. Water Club will be doing two kayak and canoe races, one on June 28th and the other on July 13th Blue grass festival will be July 30th at Eagle Rim Park. She is having trouble finding organizations that are willing to sponsor the event. Mike Easton is working on the Adventure Race for the end of September and 1st of October. Insurance issue is taken care of. Dusty is working on volunteers.

Russ said he has applied for the necessary permits for the June 3rd ceremony. He will need four or five volunteers at the start of each section of trail. Riverside Community Association is interested in doing something that day at the park. Kathy Portner and Keith Fife will ride bikes at Redlands Boat Launch and/or Jr. Service League. Russ asked the group for ideas or suggestions on what to do at the midway point, wants to do more than a ribbon cutting. Ideas thrown around, "golden spike", time capsule or perhaps a drawing for all participants. Lenna suggested that maybe the Riverside Community should make the decision of what kind of celebration they would like in their park. Still working with

New Business

Dave Fishell on river history on May 14th probably at Jr. Service League Park. There was concern about the date because it's Mother's Day. Russ said there will be re-enactment's as well as story telling. Still working on final details.

Volunteer Committee - Mark and Dusty have been working with Paula Anderson on getting this project off the ground. Paula is trying to get the City to allow employees to participate during work hours. Dusty is developing a task list, she passed around a sign up sheet for the Grand Valley Music Festival concerts and for Riverfest 2000 events. She would like to have two or three volunteers per concerts. Thinking about putting together a table top display for the concerts. Lenna asked about permanent name tags and hats so that members can be easily visible at events. Dusty and Bob moved to have Michele get a quote on permanent name tags. Dusty is putting together a master calendar. She will continue to ask for volunteers at each meeting.

Public Comment

Pat thanked Catherine for attending. She updated the group on the meeting on Saturday with Scott McGinnis.

Jim Baughman asked Mark about the recycled tire program he's looking into. Jim gave Mark the name of a local person that might be able to do the same thing. Jim said it looks like the Dinosaur Museum will be relocating to Fruita site.

Brad added that the property that Bob said State Parks has been acquired is incorrect, there is a verbal agreement but they haven't closed on it. Contractors tell Brad still on schedule. Will have 22 camp sites open by Memorial Day Weekend.

Catherine asked about what Jerry Nolan was going to talk about since he didn't show up. Russ said there Jerry was going to talk about the recent vandalism problems at Redlands. Jerry is interested in the possibility of a solar powered light in the area. Catherine thought perhaps the law enforcement people could do a run by the area when they are on their way to and from the firing range.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9pm.