

**RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
245-0045**

**Minutes of Meeting
October 17, 2000**

Call to Order

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

Pat Kennedy	Lenna Watson
Mark Gardner	Jim Majors
Walid Bou-Matar	Bill Findlay
Dusty Dunbar	Gabe DeGabriele
Russ Walker	Paul Jones
John Heideman	

Also present were Brad Taylor, Bob Cron, Paul Nelson, Ken Scissors, and Michele

Palisade U date .there was no one from Palisade.

Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes

Gabe stated that his last name was misspelled, should be “DeGabriele”.

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

Announcements

Michele will be out of the office November 15th until November 27th.

A card was passed around for Jane Quimby.

Old Business

The Riverfront Foundation sponsored a Bluegrass Festival last year at the amount of \$10,000. The Foundation has decided not to sponsor the event next year but would like to know if there is a commission member interested in taking this on as committee and find sponsors. Will give members time to think about it and will bring up at next

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month's meeting. Bob stated that there are sponsors interested but would need to contact them now before they've committed money to other events next year. Walid stated he'd be interested if there was someone who would be available to help him.

Jim asked about the GVMF events and how that tied in with the Bluegrass Festival.

Lenna gave a brief history of what the Year of the River was all about. Further discussed PR coverage of events.

Paul Nelson explained he is the liaison for the RFF with Rex and Genice with regard to the GVMF. Jim said he'd like to help Paul.

Bill said he'd like to see more of a true festival type event planned for Riverfest 2001. Float trips, food vendors, music, entertainment, etc.

There was no further old business.

New Business

Education/Interpretive Committee - Pat explained about Gabe's interest in bringing Mesa State students and the area schools to the riverfront. Pat took to the Legacy meeting and members were also interested. Gabe then talked about using the riverfront

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to provide educational opportunities to students that don't have readily available resources either in their schools or at home to use and learn about the riverfront trails. There are several outside areas wanting to partner on this project. Pat suggested taking an inventory of what the area schools in District 51 are currently doing with their programs.

Dusty explained the BLM interpretive sign program being done with area classes. Wade Johnson is the contact. Stan Johnson is another contact at the DOW. Bob suggested that Gabe spent some time with him and gave him several names of which he should contact. Russ also gave him several names. Gabe said that there is a possibility of going for a Natural Science Grant.

Russ will do presentation on Blue Heron Lake at November meeting.

Dusty would like to add item to next month's agenda - she has been approached by a group interested in providing a free bicycle buggy service on the riverfront trail.

There was no further new business.

Committee Reports

Palisade U date .there was no one from Palisade.

Fruita Update - Have applied for small tamarisk grant to work on noxious weed removal along Little Salt Wash. Dusty attended the Civic Forum meeting earlier and shared with them Fruita's interest in open space and the riverfront trails. Still working on the bridge. Have been approached from groups interested in hosting fundraisers for money needed to finish the bridge.

Urban Trails Committee - Ken said they are still working on the canal bank agreement with the Redlands Water and their plan of action is to go door to door and meet with the individual landowners along the canal banks. Reminded everyone that they are still in the planning stages and would prefer that their plans are not made public until they are ready to meet with the landowners. They also are working on updating the Urban Trails Master Plan. The Redlands was highlighted last week and will be discussing West (19-26 Road, Patterson - "P") at their November meeting. Ken also added that he has been working with Carl White on getting signage out in Orchard Mesa through Palisade. He will be meeting with Palisade to discuss signage and a kiosk. Talked about a central map and possible sites. Bill expressed interest in working on signage on the trails. Ken said he'd be interested after they are done with the Master Plan update.

Legacy Update - Bob has been helping the Tamarisk Coalition on a grant application.

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The Botanic Gardens raised \$17,000 for the Children's Garden. They have received clearance to start work on the amphitheater. The DOW has named the property across from Riverbend Park the Tillie Bishop Wildlife Area. They are designing a road and parking area and should have done next year. Bob updated what is going on with the Fish & Wildlife. (Technical difficulty with the tape). The Colorado Conservation Area did pass both houses just waiting for signature. (Again, technical difficulty with the tape).

Soft Path - Have a grant completed and Michele will be sending it in this week. Still waiting to meet with Tony Prinster and working with Shawn on the test site.

Rendering Plant - Paul said he is still waiting to hear from the City. Nothing new really to report. He will be contacting Region 10 about the possibility of moving the plant to another location.

Tamarisk Coalition - Recently met with the Riverfront Foundation with a proposal of using the Foundation for the 501 (c) for a pass through. Working on a Lions Club grant. There is a mapping program to be done to get an idea of the tamarisk situation in the valley. Jude Sirota is working on a noxious weed grant. Working with Senator Campbell's office to see about getting money through appropriations. Have received

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equipment through the Fish & Wildlife Service surplus program. Trying to purchasing equipment rather than leasing. Group is looking at a chipper because rental is substantial. Group has hired Third Sector to search grant money to cover overhead expenses. John will be contacting new members for help.

Colorado Riverfest 2000 Committee - Adventure Race happened at beginning of the month and was quite successful. Had group of German Volunteers from Moab that were of great help. Michele added that it was the second largest adventure race in Colorado this year. Will cap the racers to no more than 50 next. Brian Mahoney of the RFF has agreed to sponsor next year. Race will be during late September of 2001. Russ reminded everyone about the Riverfront Run on October 28th. Dusty still needs about five more volunteers. Russ volunteered, as did Jim. There is a GVMF in November.

Volunteer Committee - Dusty stated that Harding Larson is looking for donations for prizes to give away after the race. If anyone has something, please contact her. Dusty also reminded everyone that if they have a task coming up to let her know their needs as soon as possible.

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Public Comment

Paul N. said he was pleased to be here tonight and delighted to see all that was going on.

There was no further public comment.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

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