

RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
245-0045

Minutes of Meeting
February 20, 2001

Call to Order

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

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

Also present were Brad Taylor, Dave Soker, Paul Nelson, Judy Craddock and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes

It was noted that Gabe's last name was spelled incorrectly.

Russ motioned to approve minutes. Paul second. Motion passed.

Announcements

Paul Nelson spoke about the GVMF, the changes in parking, etc. Will be meeting next Monday with safety personnel regarding traffic in/out of park. Schedule is in place with seven concerts starting in June and ending in September. Opportunity for volunteer coordinator just for GVMF. Will need three to four volunteers per concert. Will also need a RFC member to speak before each concert on behalf of the RFC and RFF. Looking for someone who can attend all seven concerts. Will be needed from 6pm to 10pm per concert. After concert - safety personnel (with badges) will direct traffic out of the park.

Old Business

Dave Soker, Land Acquisition Coordinator with USFW Endangered Fish Recovery Program updated the group on what his program is doing. Continuing to acquire properties in the valley in order to preserve flooded areas. National wildlife refuge land in the valley. Focusing on only acquiring land that is needed - mainly by easements. Some will have public access, dependable on landowner and other entities involved. Currently stepping up law enforcement on filling in the river. Willing to help work

through process with anyone doing anything along the river. Happy to educate. Would like to have a biologist on the June 8th raft trip.

Russ suggested having someone with the BOR along also so they can talk about the selenium mitigation program.

There was no further old business.

New Business

Pat read Bob's comments on the Wetland's Initiative. New chairperson, John Toolen wants to add emphasis on the Colorado River. Bob feels this is an organization worth monitoring.

There was no further new business.

Committee Reports

Fruita Update - Received one bid for the Old Fruita Bridge and it was way too high. Per the bid, bridge would need more work and cost approximately \$1.2 million to bring up to structurally sound. Project currently will be on hold until can reassess. Jim suggested Fruita contact other states that have similar historic bridges. There continues to be movement on land. 2020 plan to be approved tonight.

Palisade Update - there was no one from Palisade.

Pat mentioned Silt getting GOCO grant for trail management study. He also showed group the proposed Family Entertainment Center. Project will have go carts, bumper boats, batting cages, miniature golf, and an arcade building. Pat was not in favor of the project at first, however, after second thought, sounds like a good idea. Group feels good idea too. Mentioned Art Center looking at moving to Los Colinas area.

Dusty said she has received several calls from concerned trail users about parking at the new Albertsons parking lot. Everyone was reminded that there will eventually be a trailhead at the old Public Service property.

Pat also commented on Ken Henry with Country Wide Mortgage - looking to renovate Fruita/Dougway trail. Historic trail in Fruita that leads to Glade Park. Most of trail is in good shape. There are a few spots that have been washed out. Monument is on board. Working on finding landowners, etc.

Urban Trails Committee - Judy stated the group is still working on UTC master plan. March will be canal banks. River corridor will be in April. At last week's meeting, landowner was there who has been asked by the City to provide canal access. City has

requested 12' concrete trail, landowner wanted to know why it had to be concrete. Projection of growth in Pear Park area to be about 20,000 people.

Legacy Update - Pat read Bob's update. Changes at GOCO due to lower revenue than projected.

Soft Path - Mark's been making calls. Still working on easement issues. Will be contacting Joe Stevens in next few weeks. Still working on funding. Won't hear from GOCO until late March/April. There has been some concerns with regard to the crum rubber. It is the most expensive part of the trail. Bill passed around memo regarding another soft path. Lenna suggested contacting Greg Linza with the County to see where to go from there. Brad spoke about wanting to use trained staff for pruning and using chipper.

Rendering Plant - Paul stated Alan Workman is frustrated with Tim Woodmansee. Alan has had it. Paul needs advice. Suggested contacting Greg Trainor or Mark Relph to see if they can make something happen. Paul will attend next Wednesday's lunch meeting.

Tamarisk Coalition - Have two grants out for seven projects. Have received a call from Senator Campbell's office to advise him of what's going on. Trying to structure so it will be appealing to funders. Biggest project is conference in September in Grand Junction. Working with selenium group in Delta County.

Volunteer Committee - Dusty stated she is waiting to hear about meeting on February 26th at 10:30am. She also needs people to let her know if they have any projects.

Educational Committee - Symposium is March 2nd at 8:30am to noon in the Boettcher Room at Mesa State. RSVP's must be made by Monday.

Public Comment

Brad asked for Gabe's telephone number. Focus group for Wetland's has been meeting for several years. Brad has been attending since 1996. John is breathing new life into the program. Working on berm at Corn Lake. Will have impact on mature cottonwoods. Will try to establish native plantings when completed. He added that the stocking program will probably be going away in few years.

There was no further public comment.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.