

**RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
245-0045**

**Minutes of Meeting
June 19, 2001**

5:45pm - Meeting with Fruita City Council, City Manager and City Attorney started with introductions around the table. Group talked about the GVMF concerts. Pat also talked about the old cattle trail to Glade Park. Steve stated Fruita encourages the development of the trail. Gwene reminded everyone that the old Fruita Bridge was on hold. Dusty and Bennett then explained Fruita's plans for the old refinery and their greenway project.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair, Patrick Kennedy at 6:35pm. Those present were:

Lenna Watson
Paul Jones
Russ Walker
John Heideman
Jim Majors

Patrick Kennedy
Walid Bou-Matar
Dusty Dunbar
Mark Gardner
Bill Findlay

Also present were Diana Cort, Bennett Boeschstein, Brad Taylor, Steve Shrock, Ed Sands, Gwene Phinnell, guest Jim and Bernadette Jeffryes and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes

Paul motioned to approve the minutes. Gabe second. Motion passed.

Announcements

Riverfront office to be closed starting July 11th. (Tentatively will reopen on July 30th).

Grand Valley Music Festival Concert Saturday night at 7:30pm.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Redlands Trail to Fruita. Brad updated the group on what State Park's is working on. Their number one priority is to finish projects already under way near and within the City

of Grand Junction. Priority number two is Fruita to Loma Boat Launch. Will continue to work with Fruita on projects within the City. Land acquisitions and negotiations on going. There are still lots of hurdles. Priority number four is Connected Lakes to Palisade and priority number five is Palisade going east. Brad reminded everyone that lottery dollars are off and not sure what will happen in September when Power Ball comes on line.

Bill stated that float trip was what brought the subject up with regard to the trail from Walker Wildlife to Fruita. Knows there are pros and cons and duck hunters with concerns of where the trail placement might be. Brad said they are working with a couple of landowners near 22 Road and feel comfortable. Going north is parcel that is open space owned by the County and the County wants State Parks to manage. Brad added they do not want to take away access from hunters. Other access points can be deemed illegal. Discussed conflicts and seasonal closures.

There was no further new business.

Committee Reports

Fruita Update – Heard Fruita’s update earlier.

Palisade Update – No update was received from Palisade.

Urban Trails Committee –Diana stated they have completed revisions to the Urban Trails Master Plan. Had open house last week. Next step is to go to Planning Commission and Planning Department then onto Council and Commission for approval.

Legacy Update –Pat read Bob’s update: Bob is well along on the annual report required by GOCO. Due in early July. GOCO Board and staff are working on revising Strategic Plan. Will be holding meetings around the State to get public and stakeholder input. Will be in Grand Junction on July 18th. The first GVMF concert was a great success. Mesa Land Trust has completed an easement-purchase totaling 32 acres of orchard on the south bank of the Colorado River downstream from the Tillie Bishop Wildlife Area. Work is completed on the dike at Corn Lake but needs added elevation – work will be done in the fall.

Soft Path – Mark said Dillon Resources were satisfied with last changes to documents. Documents have been forwarded on for signatures. Next step will be to walk area with Joe, Don, Shawn, etc.

Soft Path II – Bill has recently ridden trail and it appears nothing has been completed on County side. Has call into Greg Linza with the County.

Rendering Plant – Paul said still on back burner. Mesa State still unaware of their being benefactor of parcel.

Tamarisk Coalition - John informed the group that he will not be reupping for another term so tonight will be his last meeting. Jude with Mesa County is new person in charge. Broke into small committees. Will meet quarterly and work a lot through email. Symposium in September here in Grand Junction. Membership continues to grow – over 100 now. Reviewed tentative schedule and additional plans would like to have if group can get more money. Working on Pulling Together Initiative. Senator Campbell's office has requested a map of area involved by June 15th. Continued to review notes John passed out to group. Russ updated group about proposal on large funding project.

Volunteer Committee – Walid thanked everyone for the great float trip. Dusty and Walid had six volunteers at the last concert. Brad brought in lots of his staff because no one knew what to expect. Have had meeting to discuss changes and improvements. Dusty said signs would be helpful.

Blue Heron Lake – Russ said he's been busy filling in data. Put fish back into Lake in cage for 92 hours. Will then go back and see if they survived.

Educational Committee – Gabe stated there is a follow up meeting in August to continue dialogue. Organization working getting 501 3 (c) status. Looking at revisiting Elderhostel program.

Trail Maps – Jim stated he was surprised to see last months minutes stating he would be revising trail maps. He passed around copies of old maps. Discussed desired changes. Next meeting will have idea of funding sources or opening up to other partners if City Market is not interested. Dusty said there are grants available.

Public Comment

Jim Jeffryes suggested doing a map similar to river maps. Introduced himself and his wife. Stated they would like to build a brewpub at 9th and Struthers that will feature outdoor concerts. Have already been to one planning meeting and were very disappointed by the negative ness of the homeowners in the area and the planning commission's NO. Will continue to revise plans and hope to work further with the Riverfront Commission.

Paul asked about the possibility of starting the Riverfront Commission meetings earlier. Will be placed on the next month's agenda.

There was no further public comment.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.