

**RIVERFRONT COMMISSION  
245-0045**

**Minutes of Meeting  
October 16, 2001**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair, Pat Kennedy at 7:00pm. Those present were:

Patrick Kennedy	Gabe DeGabriele
Paul Jones	Walid Bou-Matar
Lenna Watson	Dusty Dunbar

Also present were Catherine Robertson, Clark Rieves, Bob Cron and Michele Rohrbach.

**Approval of Minutes**

There was not a quorum present at start of meeting. With quorum present Paul motioned to approve the minutes with the following corrections: chemical used at the Botanic Gardens is Garlon, Bob Blanchard not Rob and Mark Gardner was present at last month's meeting. Walid second, motion passed.

**Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**Old Business**

Pat stated that a tour was discussed at the last meeting; did anyone have any thoughts or ideas? Pat asked Bob for his thoughts – Bob said he thought about Clifton to Palisade or going further up to DeBeque. Group liked the idea of DeBeque. Paul mentioned article in the paper on Eric Jacobson and his permit. Discussed Powderhorn Coal company and proposed land deal with BLM.

December meeting will start at 6pm, which will allow for quiet meeting and then guests will arrive at 6:30pm for social. Social will be at the Pinon Grill.

There was no further old business.

## **New Business**

Pat told the group about the No Thoroughfare Wash Clean Up over the weekend and how it is a project of the homeowners and Partners doing the work. Brian attended the cleanup on Saturday. Michele will contact Brian to get further details.

Bob and Pat meet with Ken Walker on the Riverside Bypass project. Currently there are some problems with the plan – the riverfront project would lose one trailhead, however, there is potential for another one near Sam's Club and one near the City shops. Group discussed problems with Beltway and what will need to be looked out for during the planning stages. There will be a meeting on November 6<sup>th</sup> (location and time TBA). Pat told everyone not to get too upset; project is still in the planning stages with many changes to be made.

There was no further new business.

## **Committee Reports**

Fruita Update – Bennett was not present nor did we receive an update via email.

Palisade Update – John was not present nor did we receive an update prior to the meeting.

Urban Trails Committee – Clark updated group on UTC getting final approval with City and County Planning staffs. November UTC meeting will be at the joint City and County meeting. Asked that RFC members attend too.

Legacy Update – Bob mentioned the brochure he received at a recent meeting on the Front Range. Thinks it's something the RFC should consider doing for presentation to Mesa County and the public. Catherine said it would be a wonderful tool for new businesses in the valley. Bob then talked about the new maps he had mounted.

Legacy meeting is tomorrow at 1:30pm. Trail grant applications are out. There is a seminar on November 5<sup>th</sup> on Designing Streets for Pedestrians and Bicyclists (see Michele if interested).

Mesa Land Trust is putting on a workshop on Conservation Easements and estates on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

Tamarisk Coalition meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup> and group will be deciding on whether or not to hire an executive director. Bob will be out of town and strongly encouraged someone from the RFC to be there.

GOCO funding – Powerball has increased revenues into GOCO. Board will not consider funding next round of Legacy until January. Talking about changes but will continue to fund large projects.

Paul asked about Los Colonias. Bob updated the group on the City of Grand Junction and the Parks Department program budget being reduced to 8% from 14% over the next ten years. Meaning they will be in replacement/maintenance – no new parks for the next ten years. Nothing is final but will need to tighten budget. Bob said this would even hurt neighborhood parks.

Soft Path – Mark was unable to attend. Pat read Mark's email: The City has begun work on the Blue Heron soft path. Jerry's maintenance crew has removed and treated a section of tamarisk. They have also been looking into the post and cable work that needs to be done. Shawn is continuing to get some fill tonnages together. Mark has contacted the State Trails Grant people to find out about using the monies for the crum rubber on other materials on the project, he's gotten an initial okay to do so.

Soft Path II – Bill had a conflict and was unable to attend. He stated that 120 tons of crusher fine has been delivered to the site. Partners crew is continuing work. Project has been approved as a Service Learning program and will probably have some Grand Junction High students out three to help in the future. Curtis Dowd has agreed to run his skid loader over the crusher fines to smooth out once the Partners crew has it spread on the trail.

Pat said he saw a mountain lion on the trail at Connected Lakes.

Rendering Plant – Nothing new to report. Michele stated she received a call from Judy Workman – they've been having a vandalism problem over the past couple of weeks.

Tamarisk Coalition – The symposium had a great turnout. Outcome – numerous ways to control and rid, dependent upon where and each situation, will need to be tailor made. Pat said they took a field trip and saw areas where work had been done and methods used on each site.

Volunteer Committee – Dusty is putting together thank you notes and getting tee shirts out to GVMF volunteers. She is working on getting volunteer project together on riverfront in Fruita. Fruita is still interested in being partner with GVMF next year. Will be having a meeting with all involved in GVMF tomorrow at State Parks office in Fruita tomorrow.

Educational Committee – Gabe said the Elderhostel project is on hold. Education meeting had a good turn out and discussed how to develop resources. Pat told them about RFF funding for entrance fees. Gabe talked about a program that will have senior level education liaisons at five different sites that will coordinate and volunteer within the education program. Looking at doing on a yearly basis – hopefully year round.

Trail Maps – Jim was unable to attend.

## **Public Comment**

Catherine asked if anyone received invitation for Greg on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Catherine would like him to get to know everyone on the RFC. Bob said he met Greg at the Dinosaur Hill dedication and informed him about the RFC. Pat said he saw in paper about the RAC members being appointed.

Catherine added that they done an evaluation on Whitewater boat launch – site has become unusable due to erosion – very serious problem. She will be meeting with Bob Jasper about the problem.

DOW regulation on Loma boat launch is still moving through process – meaning that personal watercrafts will no longer be allowed to launch at the boat launch.

Dusty said she also helped Wade Johnson with the Dinosaur dedication. She said everyone should go check out what Wade has done.

## **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.