

**RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
245-0045**

**Minutes of Meeting
June 20, 2002**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair, Patrick Kennedy at 7:10pm. Those present were:

Patrick Kennedy	Lenna Watson
Paul Jones	Mark Gardner
Gabe DeGabriele	Bill Findlay
Dusty Dunbar	

Also present were Bob Cron, Brad Taylor, Don Hobbs and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes

Gabe/Bill motioned to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Announcements

Soft path trail dedication is Saturday, June 22nd at 10:30am, meet at the Jr. Service League picnic shelter.

Pat talked about the trail inspection with Jack Placchi with the State of Colorado. He was very impressed with the quality of the trail for the \$ amount.

Bill said soft path has compacted well. Partners crew will be out this weekend to cut brush and weeds. Gabe will bring up at next safety meeting.

Old Business

Pat was at May 30th Parks Board meeting regarding Los Colonias. Needed \$400,000 okay from Parks Board to match \$200,000 from DDA and \$200,000 from Riverfront Foundation. They supported but didn't approve. Met with City Council – City Council agreed to \$350,000 for Legacy grant application. Parks Board would like to meet with the RFC to get in the know.

There was no further old business.

New Business

Asked how the group feels about going to email minutes and agendas. Members liked. Michele will send a heads up letter to members and others on minute and agenda mailing list. (Dick is not on line so Michele will mail his).

Talked about getting polo shirts with RFC logo on them to wear at events – members would have to purchase their own. Michele will check into the cost.

There was no further new business.

Committee Reports

Fruita Update – Bennett was not present. Dusty said Fruita is working on band shell picnic shelter at Reed Park.

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

Urban Trails Committee – Bill talked about trail agreement Robert has been working on. Robert will have Dan Wilson review. Marketing and Outreach committee had just met that day and they had ideas that they need to follow through on. New project came up - Tim to met with Dick Innis about possible trade.

Legacy Update – Bob told the group that the Legacy application is done and has gone in. Our project is one of 14 but only competing with six others. Bob asked Michele to draft letter to Keith Fife and Michael Warren thanking them – Pat and Lenna to sign. There will be a tour but not sure when. Will be doing power point presentation in Denver. Presentation is being worked on. Steering Team meeting on July 24th and hope to have draft presentation at that time. During last field trip (six years ago) did a helicopter tour. Paul Nelson's contact at Qwest is no longer there. Does anyone know a contact? Bob asked if members mind him doing presentation to please say so. Keith/Bob/Pat agreed should only be one presenter – not a tag team effort.

Bob said rumor is that State Parks may be back in the game in 2005 because of strong revenues.

Mesa County and the Land Trust just received word they will get \$200,000 for community separator program.

Wade Haerle just elected chair of GOCO Board. Dickerson vice-chair.

Pat told group that Bob has put in a great deal of work while not feeling well. Group thanked him.

Soft Path – Mark reminded everyone about the dedication ceremony on Saturday. Bill asked about the roller coaster effect. Don said they would drag before Saturday. Been having problems with ATV's.

Riverside Bypass – Lenna said second meeting is tomorrow. Work cut out for the 25 members on the Board. Bill asked Paul if Botanic Gardens is on the board. Paul said they've been hurt by the release of plans - visitation is down as are donations.

Rendering Plant – Paul said he met with Craig from Coldwell Bankers. Property is listed. Reviewed property and plans. One area will be turned into a staging area – animals will be frozen and then hauled to Denver. Six counties involved from Western Slope. Discussed sales price of each parcel for sale. Six county coalition would be purchasers if can get everyone to agree. Pat asked Brad if this would work. Brad said property owners would be willing work with them. Brad asked about Parcels 2 and 4. Pat said there are four other parcels the owners want to sell as all one but realtor wants to separate out. Brad thinks need to keep options open on Parcels 2, 4 and pig plant. Willing to talk about price reduction if a non-profit is involved. Bill asked about health issues with freezing process. Dusty has concerns about animals coming if from other counties.

Bob asked about partnership. Realtor didn't give a whole lot of information about the partnership. Bob thinks RFF might want to partner with partnership.

Has an Environmental Investigation from 1999 for Phase 2 – appears to be relatively clean. Dusty and Gabe think it would be best moving it to the landfill.

Tamarisk Coalition –Walid unable to attend. Michele said they have moved into space being provided by Mesa State for summer. Tim is working on grants. Paul is interested in helping.

Volunteer Committee – Dusty said nothing to report. Dusty would like to see RFC meeting held in Fruita.

Safety Committee – Hasn't had meeting since last month. They meet on the 4th Wednesday at 9 am of each month.

Educational Committee – Gabe said on hold until fall. Chris will help.

Trail Maps – Chris unable to attend.

Public Comment

Lenna asked if State Parks is ready for first concert – Brad said yes.

Bob reminded group tonight is Pat's last meeting. Group thanked Pat and told him he has to come back next month. Lenna announced that Mark is the new co-chair.

Gabe asked if anyone has seen flyer on separator program. Dusty said what she's seen was putting it to a vote rather than elected officials. Gabe will keep ears open.

There was no further public comment.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.