

**RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
245-0045**

**Minutes of Meeting
May 20, 2003**

Call to Order

Co-Chair, Lenna Watson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Those present were:

Lenna Watson	Paul Jones
John Gormley	Bill Findlay
Chris Kanaly	Dusty Dunbar
Mark Gardner	

Also present were Bob Cron, Kurt Larsen, Joe Stevens, Tillie Bishop and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes

John emailed Michele the following changes: “Concerning the portion of minutes related to the Gunnison Corridor, the names of the 5 larger land owners with significant private holdings are Rick Schroeder, the Clymer family, UnawEEP-Charolais Ranches, Elam Construction and Whitewater Building Materials”.

John motioned to approve the minutes, Bill seconded. Motion passed.

Announcements

Float trip is Friday, June 6th. Reminded everyone to RSVP since space is very limited this year.

Old Business

Lenna asked if everyone had read the article on Price Stubbs. Lenna said her friend David Smuin (hydrologist – 242-4454) will go out a take a look. Bob said the County legal staff will review proposal and talk to Ouray County. BOR is sponsoring a design workshop. Design of fish ladder and cost with and without safe boater passage. Lenna asked if the \$100,000 Pete Winn spoke about is close to the \$ amount. Bob said at this time it looks okay, he’s not real sure. BOR thinks it will cost about \$50,000+/-.

Discussed times the park will be open for use, mainly weekends and holidays. Possibility of use during other times. Bob explained what Eric Jacobsen plans are. Tillie said he thinks it should be explored.

There was no further old business.

New Business

Kurt Larsen, Mesa County Director of Planning & Development explained what planning does for the County. Told everyone where the office is located (750 Main Street). There is a staff of 17. Keith Fife is Long Range Planning, Linda Dannonberger is ? and Jody Ralph is Administration. Explained the differences of what each section does and whom they're involved with. Talked about long range planning and open space for the County's vision. He also talked about UTC's Master Plan, which is something most communities don't have. Buffer zones are another great idea. Transfer of development rights program happening in Fruita. Talked about the multi-modal plan (UTC) and the revised plan.

John asked about the Gunnison Bluff's Master Plan. Kurt said it was done prior to his employment with the County and that it probably needs to be updated. John asked if the RFC would be involved and Kurt said yes.

Talked about other projects RFC has been involved in that the County would be contacting RFC to participate.

Talked about awards received for buffer areas and major accomplishment for the County. Stated buffer zones are coming up to be looked at and RFC will be involved.

County participates in Legacy.

Kurt then opened the floor for questions. Bob stated it's a pleasure to work with Keith Fife and Michael Warren.

Tilled stated County wants to be a partner and work with RFC. He stated RFC's request to comment on plans hasn't been decided yet.

Lenna said RFC is excited when we have opportunities in the process. Kurt added, that partnering is what it's all about. Said he will let the RFC know that they're doing. Happy to come back with projects. John asked about Master Plan, Kurt explained how it's implemented.

Thanked Kurt for coming.

There was no further new business.

Committee Reports

Fruita Update – Dusty said negotiations still in the works for Snooks Bottom as well as Compton property.

Little Salt Wash trail is a demonstration project for an Urban Trail in Fruita. Have decided to go with concrete and will work with residents on their fears.

Great first concert. Looking for interested people in Fruita to apply for RFC. Letting contract on Little Salt Wash.

Palisade Update – There was nothing reported to Michele from Palisade.

Urban Trails Committee – Birgit was unable to attend. Michele updated the group on the canal bank issue. Shawn Cooper has put together some signs. Identified some areas will need bridge. Joe stated he's ridden GVIC trail (Central High School to Canyon View Park, about 6 ½ miles). Joe said he would be meeting with Dan Wilson and Jim Grisier on Thursday. Bill added information on No Thoroughfare Wash and title search.

Legacy Update – Bob added to Dusty's comments that there is only enough money to buy half of the 111 acres of Snooks Bottom. Had good break through with Mark Gardner's help. Elam said to go ahead with half. Fruita and Elam are in ongoing discussion.

Palisade is working on completing their section of trail.

GOCO – concerned about rules of operation they want to put into place. Have had one public meeting but don't know those changes yet. Should have by the first of June, then a second meeting in Montrose on 6/26. He talked about notes he received from someone at GOCO staff meeting. Looks like revenue of \$55 million. Programs focus on four quadrants. No Legacy next year per staff's proposal. Next Legacy meeting is June 4th.

Tamarisk Coalition – Nothing new to report.

Safety Committee – Gabe unable to attend but emailed Michele there was nothing to report.

Education – New committee member.

Trail Maps – Chris has agreed to continue work on fine turning the maps. New maps are in but only have about 1,000 left of the 10,000 ordered.

Trail from Grand Junction to Palisade – Paul said he still hasn't heard from Brad Taylor. He asked if State Parks would build fence, Bob said they have in the past. Has identified four parcels east of rendering plant and needs to determine how to contact owners. Bob suggested Paul contact Kurt Mill.

Public Relations/Marketing – New committee member.

Fruit to Walker Wildlife – Dusty said she’s been busy with her new job. She’s still working on right of way. Talking to long range planning. Trying to get name of contact for railroad. John said he has name of regional contact.

Gunnison Corridor – John talked with Walid and there was a meeting for the Riverview Tech Corp. Decided to hire Master Planner with idea of incorporating trails on property. Bill brought up Rails to Trails magazine.

Fruita to Horsethief – Eric was unable to attend.

General Comment

Paul updated group on the Botanic Gardens amphitheatre will be completed soon. Believes UTC’s 6/21 celebration will be held there. Still fundraising. Talked about different gardens they are planning. City is digging new pond for irrigation.

Dusty asked about changing meeting time 5:30 pm. Agreed to place on June agenda.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.