

RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
245-0045

Minutes of Meeting
January 20, 2004

Call to Order

Co-Chair, Mark Gardner called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. Those present were:

Mark Gardner	Paul Jones	John Gormley
Dick Gerhardt	Lenna Watson	Dennis Devore
Michael Kuzminski	Dani Weigand Knopp	Dusty Dunbar
Eric Marquez		

Also present were Bob Cron, Steve Moore, Clark Rieves, Joe Stevens, Brad Taylor, Brian Mahoney, Pat and Cindy Kennedy, Paul Nelson, Bill Prakken, Bill Findlay and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes

Joe Stevens commented that the statement in the November minutes “Joe Stevens shot proposal down at City Council meeting” was not accurate. He restated what he said at the City Council meeting. The City did not put high priority on the capital investment funding for the Rendering Plant. The property is not located in the City, environmental issues have not been satisfactorily addressed and the emphasis on the adopted parks capital improvement program for the next couple of years is neighborhood parks focusing on rapidly growing residential areas in the Pear Park and Redlands areas.

Lenna/John. Motion passed.

Announcements

Mark reminded everyone about the lunch with City Council on February 4th at 11:30am at Two Rivers and stated that they will need to RSVP.

There were no further announcements.

Old Business

Lenna mentioned “Adopt-a-trail” would be combined with safety. Dan and Dennis will be on committee.

There was no further old business.

New Business

The co-chairs have discussed changing the agenda from all committee reports to spending time on committees with actions to report. Committees will email Michele with actions or items for agenda.

Mark asked members needing help to come to a Wednesday meeting to help regain focus. Meetings are on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at noon in RFC conference room.

John suggested consolidating several of the committees such as PR and trail map.

Dusty asked about web site, Michele stated that it's just hanging out there since Earthlink took over from Rural Net.

Michele asked that members **don't wait until 2:00pm Tuesday of meeting day.**

Bob suggested sending minutes out several days after meeting so when co-chairs meet on second Tuesday they can set agenda. Bob thinks routine committee reports should go away.

There was no further new business.

Committee Reports

Fruita Update – Michele received nothing from Fruita.

Palisade Update – Bob said presentation made to Town of Palisade to sponsor water park at Price Stubbs. Public meeting very well attended and went well. Some liked idea, some didn't. Next meeting is January 27th to decide whether or not to sponsor. Water Club can't get funds. Bob stated concerns raised at meeting: ownership would probably be BOR. Old dam is Mesa and Palisade Irrigation companies. Jacobson owns land.

Urban Trails Committee – UTC meet on Saturday for a mini retreat, ideas discussed:

- 1) Redlands Water & Power canal trail
- 2) No Thoroughfare Wash
- 3) Support Mesa County on Monument Road widening – question asked about bike lane width (check with Jody)

Clark updated everyone on the COPMOBA schedule for March and April. He will email Michele info.

Legacy Update – Steve said last outstanding project on Legacy was State Parks, believe acquisition for particular property looks to be moving forward. Next Legacy meeting is February 4th.

Dennis added that Tom Kennon (?) has moved back to Grand Junction.

Rendering Plant – Still negotiating. Brian said he met with Bill Frye, owners and coalition of interested parties. There are IRS issues and working on ideas to work on win win situation.

Family has listed property with exemptions for coalition. Interested parties are looking at 14 acres.

Tamarisk Coalition – Nothing to report.

Trail from Grand Junction to Palisade – Brad said possible trail between 29 and 30 Roads.

Safety Committee – Nothing to report.

Adopt-a-trail Committee – Lenna previously updated group on what's going on.

Fruita to Horsethief – Eric said he sent engineering reports to two companies for cost estimates for the Old Fruita Bridge. Neither company has done anything like it before. Eric will follow up.

Education Committee – Michael has contacted Wade Johnson and John McConnell. Both want to attend the February meeting to report what they are doing.

Trail Map Committee/Public Relations/Marketing – John said artist at Cobb has done a great job, much easier to read. Asked about resources to get mileage on maps. Clark suggested contacting Mesa State GIS. Joe said City could get John the info for City trails. Working on getting GOCO video onto Channel 12. Have received an invitation to KAFM to talk about riverfront project.

Gunnison – John said Dusty has been helping put together a map. Brian suggested contacting Carlos with the BLM.

Fruita to Walker Wildlife – Dusty said she's working on map.

Public Comment

Brian asked about DuPont property. Dusty is working on comments that will probably be similar to previous comments. Brian reminded group that Dusty couldn't be spokesperson for RFC.

Bob has prepared a set of maps of concept for Colorado River and Gunnison, he'd like to present to group in February, would need about an hour.

Mark presented a certificate and card to Bob and said thanks! Brian added RFF thanks and history of where project has come from and it's beginning. Bill P. added his comments of thanks, as did Paul Nelson and Pat Kennedy.

There was no further public comment.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.