

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
245-0045**

Riverfront Commission

**Minutes
November 15, 2005**

Called to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by co-chair John Gormley. Those present from the Commission were:

John Gormley	Dennis DeVore	Dave Soker
Kathy Herzog	Dennis Pretti	Marianne Tilden
David Ludlum	Michael Kuzminski	

Also present were Steve Moore, Tillie Bishop and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval

Michele read changes requested by Brad Taylor.

Kathy/Dave. Motion passed.

Announcements

Did introductions around the room.

IGA meeting is 12/1/05 at 7:00am at BLM office. Master Trail Planning meeting to follow at 8:30am.

There will be no December RFC meeting. In the past, have had social in December but will continue hosting social after retreat. Looking at March or April of 2006.

Plenty of t-shirts left – so think Christmas presents.

New Business

Michele showed everyone the website pages. Talked about what will appear on each page.

Trail clean up rescheduled for spring. Would like to work it when WCCC is doing tamarisk removal on Watson Island.

New Computer and phone system have been installed. John thanked RFF and County for all their efforts. Will have new phone number and email address.

There was no further no business.

Old Business

John gave assignments for the Master Trail Planning: Marianne/Deb – Redlands Parkway to state line; Kathy/Dennis P. – Jarvis to Redlands Parkway, north side; Michael/Leslie – Grand Avenue Bridge to Redlands Parkway, south side; David/Dave – Palisade to Watson Island. Co-chairs will be getting worksheets of criteria needed for each segment. Looking to have completed by February. Tillie suggested having the cost of each section. RFC interested in getting history of agreements down.

Tamarisk Clean Up – RFC/RFF helped sponsor a grant through WCCC/Partners. WCCC received \$12,000 grant and have currently cleared tamarisk from Jr. Service League trailhead to Redlands Parkway. Has been dramatic. City committed \$24,000 over next two years. Steve passed around handout of press release. Working on signs to explain what's been done at Jr. Service League.

John talked about acquisitions in process – Arnett property being one. Negotiations are still on going, would get from D ½ to 32 Rd. Have had conversation with representatives from Clifton Sanitation I from 32 ½ to 33 Rd. John explained agreement with Clifton Sanitation II. Dave S. expressed concern about containments since the property was once a landfill.

There was no further old business.

Committee Reports

Urban Trails – Had a mini retreat like meeting to discuss short term and long term goals. Summary of meeting was draft a petition for canal trail users and those wishing to use the canal trails. Do a presentation to City Council along with setting up a demo project. Group is working on scheduling a site tour over lunch hour or after work for proposed demo project.

Partners Update – Palisade received money to complete trail. Path cleared but concrete not poured until January. Will go to about 36 ½ Road. Fruita received money for Big Salt Wash. WCCC is out there this week removing tamarisk. Will stabilize banks this winter. Have acquired two more easements needed.

Water park submitted grant application for \$175,000. GOCO staff has recommended it be approved. Should hear in December. Group has come a long way from three years ago.

Tillie added that the County is recommending funding Steve's position. He explained how the budget process works. John thanked Tillie again for the County's ongoing partnership. Tillie stated that Craig is really committed to getting more trails. Road and Bridge will begin work on Monument Road. County has spoken with Bruce Noble about extending up to Monument gate. John talked about UTC's work on No Thoroughfare Wash. Tillie talked about gravel pit in area and gentleman wants to expand and has talked about replacing Black's Bridge. Bruce Noble has stated that they have 22 miles of Monument Road that needs to be replaced. Has about \$5 million for work. Wants to close some of the dead-end trails and make into loops. John praised Bruce for his efforts and open mindedness.

Thanked County for all GIS staff and their efforts. (Co-chairs to draft letter and send to Commissioners).

Public Comment

Dave S. asked a couple of questions:

- Are roads being considered as part of trails? Signage, etc. regarding gaps.
- Michele said UTC has done that in the urbanized area of Grand Junction.
- What does UTC do? What is their jurisdiction? Explained that they work within the 201 boundaries, north to south. They use the ASTO ? Standards.
- Does RFC have standards? They try to get a 50' easement with 10' wide trails.

Steve explained what LOVA did. Some trail along river and some along the roads.

Dennis P. explained tours scheduled for new members that he missed. Thinks it would be helpful. Michele stated that retreat will be a tour from DeBeque to Palisade.

Discussed gaps once you get to 33 ½ Road to 36 Road. State Parks does own a parcel out that way. John stated that State Parks wants to go from 32 Road west.

Dave S. suggested perhaps MLT should become involved. John explained that Bill Prakken is on their board.

David L. talked about Park & Recreation Board in Palisade. Stated it was his understanding that they are working on a Master Plan. Dave Soker said yes but still working out the details.

David L. motioned to remove "cheerleading" metaphor from all future meetings.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.