

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Riverfront Commission

**Minutes
June 20, 2006**

Called to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:35pm by co-chair John Gormley. Those present from the Commission were:

John Gormley	Michael Kuzminski	Leslie Kibel
Dennis DeVore	Dennis Pretti	Marianne Tilden
Dave Soker		

Also present were Emily Wright, Tillie Bishop, Ken Lane, Steve Moore and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval – Dave/Marianne. Motion passed.

Announcements

Need volunteers to collect donations at end of concerts.

New Business – Dave introduced Emily Wright with the City of Grand Junction Parks & Rec. Department. Emily explained the Trail Host Program. The Hosts keep good records of who uses trail, dog on/off leash. In summer will loop through parks. Check in sites are Parks & Rec office, Albertsons in the Redlands and Botanic Gardens. John asked if trail host report maintenance issues and problems. She said they report them to her and she has the City repair or fix. Dave said most trail host aren't familiar with RFC. Would like to see media event, give Certificate of Appreciation and possibly history book.

Discussed next year being 20th Anniversary and need to plan some kind of celebration or event.

Safety concerns – blind corners, especially for bicyclist. Need to consider correcting in future trails. GIS markers have been destroyed – talked about etching on trail. Michele said she and Shawn have discussed markers and that LiveWell stated they might be interested in putting money towards them.

Dave motioned that we do a letter of appreciation to Trail Host, recognize at media event and give history book.

Beautification Project – Shawn Cooper has suggested that RFC start getting business owners and landowners to make improvements to their property that is visible from the trail. Also encourage them to bring irrigation to trail so that native plants can be replanted now that the tamarisk has been removed. Dennis P. asked for clarification on ownership and who maintains. Dave asked how expensive would it be to install water down along the trail – very expensive.

Conservation with County regarding 32 Road to 32 ¼ Road – John has talked with Tillie regarding this easement. John gave history on deal with Clifton Sanitation last year. Working with County Commissioners on firming up this easement. Steve clarified that it's County property and that the conversations are ongoing.

Talked about opportunity from 32 ½ to 33 Road and D Road easement but need clarification on the D Road easement. Bill Ela is a former board member of Clifton Water District – he got commitment from them for easement that would get trail to 34 Road. He and John met with Board and they were receptive to idea but had concerns about liability. Their insurance broker, Jamie Hamilton was there and said might be some liability but no increase in premium.

There was no further new business.

Old Business

John asked if everyone has been working on inventory projects. Most said no. John then said that Bennett Boeschstein took it upon himself to prepare a 13 page inventory list – list all of the trails, surface, etc. He also has applied for the RFC. (Michele forgot to bring list with her so she will email out to all members).

There was no further old business.

Committee Reports

Urban Trails Update – Ken updated what UTC is working on. He said it's interesting to hear that RFC is struggling with same issues as UTC. He said signage/markers would be really important because system needs much better signage. He suggested maps along trail system. Talked about goals of UTC. Said problem of not knowing who to report to and no money to spend. John talked about how UTC came about and that they need to find project to move forward. Frustration with canal banks – it would be fantastic to get people from one end of the valley to the other and down to the riverfront trails using the canal banks. He talked about pilot project proposed along Moon Ridge Falls but Kelly Arnold felt wasn't right time to move forward.

Dennis P. spoke about how important it is to have elected officials on board, attend meetings so they can take info back to their board. Talked about past breakfast meetings with City/County and how the last luncheon meeting was a disaster for the RFC.

No Thoroughfare Wash – Dennis D. updated on project. RFF committed \$ to help build trail. County will be replacing Rosevale Bridge – money available July 1st. Dennis asked

if RFF would give money for bridge redesign work. John said RFF meets on Thursday so need info before then. Dennis to talk with Bill Taylor. Tillie will talk with Pete Baier.

Partners – Trail Planning Group meets on Thursday at 1:30pm. Next month will be large group meeting. Steve said he and Bennett have bet with Craig Mikoli (?) of KRMA. He is willing to produce video in exchange for editing equipment (cost about \$6,000). Looking for partners to each put in about \$1,500. Weeds as Jr. Service League have become problem since tamarisk removed. Been replaced with Russian Nap (?) weed. Steve will be down there on Thursday morning spraying at 6:00am. The Hutchins Trust agreed to grant \$1,000 for this project. Joe Skinner said they'd be willing to join tamarisk group.

Public Comment – Tillie suggested packaging to Jr. Service League signs, etc. Need to get back on they grant cycle schedule. Michele to contact Janet Hollingsworth about this.

Dave said Palisade trail completed.

Marianne motioned to give all funds raised for artwork sales to Palisade High School. Dennis D. second. Motion passed.

Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.