

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Riverfront Commission

**Minutes
August 15, 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	Dusty Dunbar	Ken Henry
Kathy Herzog	Bennett Boeschstein	

Also present were Denise McGinnis, Brad Taylor, Steve Moore and Michele Rohrbach.

Welcomed new members and did introductions around the room. A directory was passed around for corrections.

Approval – Dennis/Michael. Motion passed.

Brad stated that State Parks had trail host program before the City of Grand Junction.

Farewell to outgoing members. Gave rock and certificate to Dusty. A pen set and certificate were given to Michael. David did not attend so Michele will his get to him.

New members gave brief bio.

Announcements

Next Master Trail Planning meeting is 8/29 at 1:30pm in Training Room A.

IGA meeting is 9/7 at 7:00am at the BLM office.

New Business – Audubon Nature Center – Bennett talked about site at Connected Lakes – 24 acres. Plan to build \$100,000 center. Nearest one is the Santa Fe Environmental Learning Center. Have money for design and landscaping – 8,000 to 10,000 sq. ft. He stated they may want to get in touch with the Trust for Public Lands. Helped with Matchett property, Jarvis and Jouflas properties.

Whitewater Community Planning meeting – Dennis updated on Mesa County’s plans for this area. May have ballot issue in November for sewer district. RFC needs to think of trails on east side of river. Once on a map – makes it easier to request from developers

has they come before planning. BLM is realigning trail through Bangs Canyon. John suggested looking this area at next Master Trail Planning meeting.

Riverfront video – Bennett talked about grant Fruita received in 2001 from Orton Foundation. Was used for a ½ hour Small Community video. KRMJ helped with the video. Got great viewer ship. Thought would be great to do on riverfront trail. KRMJ is open to helping if could get help with cost of piece of equipment. RFF agreed to help with funding cost. Bennett has done one page write-up and can go to other groups and corporations to help with cost. (Bennett will get copy to everyone). Dave talked about getting oral history for RFC anniversary.

There was no further new business.

Old Business

Inventory Project – passed out handout of what Bennett has put together. Will still need more info for Master Trail Planning map. Thanked him for what he's done. May need to go back and reassign segments since Dusty/Dave/Michael are leaving. Bennett added that it's a draft. (Mesa County Assessor property lookup).

Think important to identify property that is still in private ownership. Page 9/10/11 are proposed.

Maps posted showed public ownership (done about three years ago).

There was no further old business.

Committee Reports

Urban Trails Update – Denise updated on members leaving and new members. Working on Study Areas and revising UTC Master Plan. Completed first year of LiveWell grant. Second Challenge starts on 8/31. Need volunteers for future walks. Talked about LNT Wash and how been working on it for past three years. Letter drafted to Pete Baier stating trail being built. Working with Bill Taylor with Mesa County with designing into Monument Road improvements.

Partners – Status of trail in Riverbend Park – concrete is laid, haven't filled in yet. Dave is working on signs regarding grant. Steve added one part of grant was for tamarisk removal. Public Works Director having problem with residents not liking tamarisk removal because of habitat loss.

Steve talked about Big Salt Wash. Have had to do a lot of stabilization and tamarisk removal. Old Fruita Bridge has center pier tipping. Concerned whether to save or tear down. Snooks Bottom contract has been extended, public access in December.

John talked about formal request of trail dedication for 32 to 32 ½ Road at D Road. Tillie would like to have done before he leaves as commissioner. Letter being drafted with this request. John gave history of Arnett deal in December. Talked about connections to this

property. Allow trail to go along the dike. Bennett said some of canal road is public right of way.

John added that Judge Ela was on Clifton Water Board for 35 years and had agreement to trail when on the Board. Have currently met with the Board and seemed receptive.

Public Comment – Brad said 29 to 30 Road is opened. He talked about “Inside Government” and how he did segment and surprised at feedback from people who saw it. LiveWell trail segment in September.

John talked about 20th anniversary and what looking at for next year.

Dennis P. talked about competitive audition (?) at concerts. Would need \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000 in bank to fund ongoing basis.

Michael said he attended waterpark meeting last week. BOR threw out # of about \$400,000 in beginning now over \$2,000,000. Meeting on 8/22 at 2pm with Allard and Salazar reps being invited.

Dave talked about boat launch in Palisade and safety with low dike in river. Corps of Engineers has told Clifton Water Treatment that must remove dike because it was built without permit. Tree is being removed within month. Dave wants to work with Corps to clean up junk in river.

Dusty would like RFC and RFF to write letter to Carl Savage, he retired for BLM last month. She also talked about importance of development review. Need to have voice in audience at hearings. Try and protect areas under grant as written.

Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.