

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Riverfront Commission

**Minutes
April 17, 2007**

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	Kathy Herzog	Deb McCoy
Tom Kenyon	Marianne Tilden	Bennett Boeschstein	

Also present were Steve Aquafresca, Brad Taylor and Paul Darr.

Approval

Bennett/Dennis. Motion passed.

Announcements

Audubon Kick Off on May 14th. Bennett handed out flyers and talked about the project.

The regular or semi-annual meeting with the City Council will be on Monday, April 30th. It was suggested that we talk up the GOCO concept paper and completing the trail section between 29 Road and Las Colonias. Bennett will bring the maps that we've created.

The tentative date for the IGA float trip is Friday, June 1st. Stretches of the Gunnison River or Palisade to Fruita (or the Junior Service League Park) are possibilities for this year.

New Business

There was no new business.

Old Business

If the GOCO Concept Paper is approved, we will need the full grant application by August. The Concept Paper is very impressive and includes many partnerships which are something that the GOCO group is looking for.

Master Trail Planning Project – nothing new to report. Duane Holmes didn't make it over for the last meeting because of weather and road concerns. There will be another meeting in May.

Inventory and Mapping – Bennett reported no news.

T-shirt Artwork – the artwork will be presented at the May meeting. This year's concerts will be Firefall on June 28, The Dirty Dozen Brass Band on July 12 and the subdudes on August 16th.

Old Fruita Bridge – even though it had been approved to add rip rap to protect the piers on the bridge; the water level is already too high to do the work now. There was a problem with one of the landowners who wouldn't let them store the rip rap on his land for free. Although he did agree to lease his land for the storage, it wasn't resolved in time. Ken Henry is still intent on saving the bridge adding that he hopes it survives this year's run off.

South Downtown – the group had another open house. Two alternatives have been proposed – industrial with a park on the river or mixed use with a large riverfront park. The rendering plant has been sold to Brady Trucking who is using it as a commercial/light industrial site. Brady Trucking has agreed to provide a trail along the river's edge.

KAFM – there will be a monthly radio show on KAFM where members of the RFC will be guests. We will also be putting together on-site interviews along the river with people who are using the area.

Whitewater Park – the waterpark is not going to happen as it's currently proposed. Tim Sarmo is still thinking of creating another one further down the river. It could be a part of Palisade's Riverbend Park.

Old Spanish Trail – the Old Spanish Trail group is having a dedication on May 12th for a plaque in Eagle Rim Park that will point to the place where the trail crossed the river. They'd like a trail from Unaweeep down the wash to the place on the river where they forded. This could be a good UTC project.

There was no further old business.

Committee Reports

UTC – Paul Darr reported that the \$100,000 has been allotted for the Lower No Thoroughfare Wash trail along Monument Road. There have been a few issues with private owners.

City Development is working with the schools and neighborhoods and the Master Trail Plan 2001 to investigate locations for connecting trails.

The UTC met with the mayor to push the canal trails. The mayor is favorable to a test case either along the Highline Canal because it's owned by the Bureau of Reclamation or along 25 to 25 ½ Road between F ½ Road and G Road.

Public Comment

Brad reported that he is actively pursuing four parcels between 27 ½ Road and 29 Road. This is a major portion of the GOCO grant. The owner of the Skinner Property is no longer willing to sell his parcel for the trail.

Artwork for the Jim Robb Memorial Fund is coming along well. This will be 4' x 5' panels for sections along the river. The celebration of their completion will be in July.

Steve Aquafresca mentioned that the Mesa County Representative on the GOCO Board has been replaced.

The county is committed to completing the trail from 32 to 33 ½ Road. Clifton Sanitation District still wants to help complete from their property to 33 Road. One property owner (Runyon) is interested in either a donation or an easement for the trail.

Rebecca Frank and Mary Beth Buescher are interested in working on a trail from Confluence Park to the RTC property. Ken Salazar is interested in further development along the river as he can remember when all the junk cars were there.

No further public comment.

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.