

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Riverfront Commission

**Minutes
August 21, 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	Ken Henry	Dave Soker
Marianne Tilden	Tom Kenyon	Lesley Kibel	Katie Steele
Corrie Bonnar	Bennett Boeschstein		

Also present were Brad Taylor, Steve Acquafresca, Tim Sarmo, Henry White (Catfish Canoe Company) and Michele Rohrbach.

Introductions – Welcomed new members and then did introduction of members and guests.

Approval

Ken/Bennett. Motion passed.

Announcements – no announcements

New Business

Said farewell to Deb and Marianne. Thanked them for all their efforts, especially the t-shirt artwork program for the concert series.

John explained what Steve Moore's duties are for the partners. Steve's available October 20th for introductory tour.

Dave talked about setting up Wildlife tour, asked group for input. He gave brief history of the areas he'd like to tour (GJ Wildlife Area, Fish Ladder on Gunnison, Audubon, and the Tilman Bishop State Wildlife Area). John suggested Dave talk with Steve about taking Katie and Corrie on their tour. Second suggestion was that it could be part of the RFC touring retreat in the spring.

There was no further new business.

Old Business

GOCO grant – John gave update of being asked to apply for Regional Trails Grant rather than Legacy Grant. Discussed difficulties with projects that could move quickly to construction after awarding grants. Several project in original grant not viable this time around. Ones considering in Legacy Grant - 29 Road to Los Colonias, 32 to 33 ½ Road, No Thoroughfare Wash, Redlands Parkway to Walter Walker and Little & Big Salt Wash. Application due November 1st with awarding of grants in March. \$4 million available for Recreational Trails and \$4 million available for Regional Parks – grants of up to \$1 million to be awarded.

Tom updated group on changes over at GOCO. New administration critical of some of old DNR's policies. Also critical of State Parks extravagant spending. Mesa County not on radar screen at GOCO but would if Mesa County had open space project come up. Asked about substantial spending in open space. Said will review spending in quadrants at later date. Need to get someone back on State Parks Board. County Commissioners and community Mayors would help with letters for appointments to Board.

Bennett gave history of Tom's dealing with GOCO and State Parks. Added John Salazar came out with \$300,000 for river projects.

RFC/RFF/UTC Fall Outing – John would like to do on Saturday, October 13th. Would like to tour segment of proposed trail at 32 to 33 ½ Road. Will also do clean up. BBQ to follow at John and Sue's house. Time 1pm to 3:30pm with BBQ to start at around 5:30pm.

South downtown – Bennett explained about layers, industrial, commercial, residential and recreational. Los Colonias largest park. Non-profit looking at recreation center at site of park. City has made no commitment to rec center. Los Colonias not on City's radar for several years. Think residential is a natural for the area, especially with plans for Jarvis property.

Ken talked about ribbon cutting at Big Salt Wash.

Old Fruita Bridge – north pier has tipped back and leveled for now. Resolution by City to budget for rip wrap. Have found grant going to apply for. Working on connectivity for GOCO with number of trails miles bride will connect to other trails. Still right-of-way on north and south that is held by County. Important not to vacate easements.

KAFM noon show September 25th – Brad Taylor will be interviewed.

KRMJ video – Bennett said Paul Jones no longer has plane so still looking for way to do aerial video of river. Can use Goggle satellite if unable to find a donated plan.

PR – Kathy unable to attend.

There was no further old business.

Committee Reports

UTC – Steven unable to attend. Michele said UTC still working on UTC Master Plan updates. Found when put trails on maps – some connections missing so taking another look at larger map so nothing is missed.

Partners – next trail planning meeting is October 10th at 1:30pm to 3:30pm in Finance Conference Room.

Public Comment

Palisade – Tim stated there is a meeting with US Fish and Wildlife next week.

James M. Robb Colorado River State Parks – Brad passed around photos of new bronze signs installed in Fruita. He added for the record, no luxury cabins on his watch.

Steve A. welcomed new members. Toured Vegas State Park and saw roads in dispute between County and BOR. Also able to check out some of the energy impact.

Henry w/Catfish Canoe Company – feels that his company is a good fit for the RFC. Would like to donate services to the RFC (perhaps have RFC pay for gas). John added will keep him in mind when planning next IGA float trip. Brad added that Henry is interested in the river and wants people to use the river as is the State Parks.

No further public comment.

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.