

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333

Riverfront Commission

Minutes
January 15, 2008

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	Dennis Pretti
Tom Kenyon	Dave Soker	Bennett Boeschstein
Kathy Herzog		

Also present were Pat Kennedy, Brad Taylor, Steve Acquafresca, Sally Schaefer, Tim Sarmo, Steven Bliss, Kerman Traily, Dave Detwiler and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval - Dennis P./Dennis D. Motion passed.

Announcements – There were no announcements.

New Business

Recreation Center – Introduced Sally Schaefer and Dave Detwiler. They presented a power point presentation on the proposed rec center. Will be 80,000 square feet. Cost of project is \$27,000 million. Discussed setting up 501 (c) 3. Helping Fruita with sales tax referred issue on their April ballot. If it passes, will be used for their rec center.

John talked about sending recommendation to City to relocate Brady Trucking stating the following:

1. In favor of recreation center – support concept along river in Los Colonias
2. Relocate Brady to better location on the highway which is better for Brady – win-win for all involved. Rec center would be an important resource in that location. Would be a park-like neighbor.

Bennett/Kathy. Motion passed. Bennett to draft letter.

Question asked to Sally about corporate naming rights. Considering but not looking at Oil & Gas Companies.

Thanked Sally and Dave for the presentation.

James M. Robb Memorial Ride – Pat talked about memorial ride last July 4th and the state park name change. Joe Skinner found funding to do again this year. All inclusive event – September 13th. Bikes will ride from Corn Lake, walkers/runners/roller bladders will be at Connected

Lakes. Still working on route. Dennis P. is on committee and will see if Katie can help. Event intended to bring RFC profile up again. Name of event is "Continue the Vision – Ride for Robb".

John said he has speaking engagement at Rotary in June.

Retreat – Looking at April. Touring Tilman Bishop Wildlife Area, Audubon and Grand Junction Wildlife Area. Details to follow.

T-shirts volunteer – Dennis D. said he'd handle.

There was no further new business.

Old Business

Palisade – Tim updated on whitewater park. Making progress on 404 permit, hoping to be in river in early spring. Talked about Endangered Fish program. Have bid for \$635,000 to do in river work. Currently stockpiling rock. Thinks structures will allow PSI per Fish & Wildlife and Corps. Need to have a special model done to satisfy Corps. and US Fish & Wildlife. Hope to have response by end of February. Palisade is asking funding sources to hang in there.

He said at some point will need to replace pedestrian bridge – hopefully with auto access. Private individual willing to design bridge and has \$100,000 to build bridge. Dave S. said that there was a vehicle bridge to access the CCS Camp.

There is interest in a trail connection in vineyard area further up.

Thanked Tim for continued efforts.

PR – Kathy said nothing to report.

Steve is departing – will need to find a replacement for his position. Steve will continue until we see if we get GOCO grant.

Video – Bennett said it's just about ready for final editing. Lacy brothers did Colorado River this past summer from Rocky Mountain National Park to where it ran out in New Mexico.

KAFM – 1/29 at noon, Felicie Williams. Bennett added that Steve Acquafresca is doing Nature Ag show once a month.

There was no further old business.

Committee Reports

UTC – Steve B. gave update about letter to County thanking them for the Share the Road signs on Monument Road. Working to get other groups involved at meetings. Discouraged about canal trails (lack of progress). Continuing plan reviews. Bill Prakken and John Gormely, Tim Fry and Paul Darr will be meeting to discuss direction of UTC at 10:00am on Thursday.

Partners – Brad talked about program started at Bookcliff Middle School (20 years ago) and RFF stepped up to cover the transportation costs when State Parks money dried up. CAEE gave award to State Parks; there will be a recognition ceremony at end of February. Have new director, Dean Winstanley.

Public Comment

Steve A. said County completed 2008 budget process. Currently 20 departments and 1,000 employees. John added RFC grateful for commitment of \$ for trails.

Bennett asked about lobbyist. County has Gayle Berry for Department of Human Services. John thinks might want to divert some of the # from Steve's funds to hire a lobbyist. Name of Don Eberle (Jim Robb's friend) was mentioned.

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.