

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Riverfront Commission

**Minutes
February 17, 2009**

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	Katie Steele
Ken Henry	Gust Panos	Frank Watt
Reg Price	Dennis Pretti	Bennett Boeschenstein

Also present Steve Aquafresca, Brad Taylor, Paul Peck, Debbie Kovalik, Rob Schoeber, Elizabeth Collins, Tillie Bishop and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval – Bennett/Katie. Motion passed.

Announcements –Did intro around the room.

Volunteer luncheon on February 18th.

IGA meeting on 3/5 at BLM at 7:00am.

Retreat on April 4th – tentatively 8:30am to 11:30am. Social that evening at the Pinon Grill.

New Business

CRCS t-shirt concert for 2009 – see Dennis DeVore for more details. Submittals need to be turned in by April 1st.

Trail Right of Way – BLM/BOR, 22 – 24 Roads – John talked about meeting Tom Fisher called regarding missing links (or gaps) so Mesa County could start working on future funding.

Paul updated on BLM triangle parcel being public property on two sides and river on third. Desire to have trail built in next two years. Want to get into the correct public entity. BLM wants to get off books. Environmental assessment would need to be done before trail can be built.

BOR – Paul talked to Terry Stroh and property was purchased for fish recovery program and transferred to USFW. BOR wouldn't be concerned with trail but still needs to go through fish recovery program.

Gust asked if someone else can do environmental assessment and then give to the BLM for review.

BLM Resource Management Plan – travel management for 1.2 acres. Conducting public meetings with user groups to find out needs. Cooperating Agency status with a meeting on February 26th. Paul wants to make sure Riverfront's needs get into process. Bennett will show Paul how to access.

CDOT Right of Way – Dennis hasn't had time to work on but gave an update on right of way along 20 Road. Need to know CDOT doesn't object. Might get stimulus funds. Need to establish for County. Could go for a \$75,000 GOCO grant for planning. Could be very expensive to build. Dennis P. asked how large is CDOT Right of Way, Bennett thought it was to the river.

There was no further new business.

Old Business

Fruita Master Trail Planning – Ken passed agenda for meeting tomorrow night and invited RFC members to the meeting. Paul, Katie and Bennett will attend.

Nature Park/Arnett – Process of getting Hoey property. Still in negotiations re: Arnett property. Not really buying cattle but easement.

There was no further old business.

Updates

Old Fruita Bridge - latest problem has been resolved, when work started, thought they'd be drilling through shale but it turned out to be sandstone. Historical Society rejected plans but Ken spoke with head of Society and resubmitted new plans that were accepted. Ken's presenting to Council tonight to commit to \$110,000 and will work on raising additional \$55,000 to replace extra funds needed by next spring. Any ideas for funding, contact Ken.

KAFM – Brian Mahoney was on last month and hopes to have Paul next week.

Committee Reports

UTC –Still commenting on development plans which have slowed way down. Working on bicycle awareness.

Partners – Paul updated earlier.

Public Comment – Rob said it's a great opportunity to meet the players. Trails are important to City's mission.

Brad passed around "Steppin' Out" maps and updated on March 2nd grant writing workshop at Corn Lake.

Tillie said with downturn in economy more people will be looking at closer to home recreational opportunities. Thanked him for push to get Mesa County Commissioners to be involved in trails on the ground.

Ken talked about trail over Ranchman's Ditch at Wildcat Way.

Brad went through old files and found an old Riverfront Annual Report from March 17, 1989.

Bennett and Bob Wilson will meet with Rob re: summer program.

Nature Center is now 109 acres.

Ride for Robb will start at Botanic Gardens. Group will start meeting at the Gardens Library. Dennis P. has agreed to be co-chair. Decided against organized ride – was a big headache and lots of work. Big celebration with attention on what's been accomplished and what needs to be accomplished. Date is September 12th.

Dennis P. was able to get Russell George with CDOT for his Rotary luncheon on March 4th.

Deb suggested going for funding through VCB.

There was no further public comment

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.