

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Riverfront Commission

**Minutes
May 19, 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	Kathy Herzog	Bennett Boeschenstein
Tom Kenyon		

Also present Paul Peck, Paul Nelson, Joe Moreng and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval – Reg/Katie. Motion passed.

Announcements – IGA flat trip – June 5th. RFC office closed week of June 8th.

New Business

Maps – down to last box. Dennis and Michele to work on new map.

RFC expiring terms:

Dennis D. – has reupped

Gust – has reupped

Bennett – has reupped

Tom – declined because new City Council member

Other names suggested: Denise McGinnis and Ron Tipping. Frank suggested letter to ditch companies.

There was no further new business.

Old Business

Michele passed around signup sheet for t-shirt table and donation collection at concerts.

Fruita Master Trail Plan – Ken said moving forward. Consultants don't of think Old River Road as trail link but a commuter trail. John said County thinks do able. Ken talked about GA Western expansion on 20 Road overpass – pedestrian walk could have done for about \$20,000.

He stated access to purchase, lease Compton property which would connect to State Park. 38 acre parcel below Kingsview possibility of putting in Mountain Bike & 18 Championship Disc Golf with very little expense and lots of volunteers. He added that stimulus funds that Fruita can borrow money at 2 ½% interest and feds will forgive part of interest to construct wastewater plant rather than waiting until 2012.

Old Fruita Bridge – Water is up to eight feet and bridge is staying level. Will be on Federal Historic Bridge site. Fruita will be hosting an artist show on June 6th.

There was no further old business.

Updates

KAFM – Chris Hamm was on. Tom with Adventure Bound was supposed to be on but Bennett was out of town and no one at the station felt qualified to interview him.

Bennett talked about great trails in Minnesota.

Video – Donna from Rocky Mountain PBS called and wants to talk to John about video.

GOCO project update – John talked about Arnett easement being done so County put back into contract and hope to have built by February 2010. Parcels – Clifton Sanitation has signed off. Hoey still held up. Trail being designed and will add about two miles. Mesa Land Trust gave Arnett easement to County yesterday.

BLM Resource Plan – John updated on what BLM is looking for from RFC. Float trip will help people in defining corridor from Grand Junction to Delta. Katie/Bennett/Gust agreed to help. John would like to be open minded as to who can use trails. Questions on Palisade to DeBeque and preferred route. Talked about Old Stage Coach trail. Paul said may be a preferred route and have an alternate route on the plan. Dennis D. said CDOT had bench in I-70 plan but had to take out because it would flood railroad.

Discussed 29 to 27 ½ Road, 33 ½ to Palisade and Parkway to 20 Road. John talked about County entering into contract with right-of-way guy to acquire easements. Potential to make things happen heading west.

Committee Reports

UTC – Joe said still waiting to hear from City as to UTC's purpose. Have met with GVIC. Working with LiveWell on a geocaching event on June 10th. New subcommittee wanting to figure out transportation corridors – safety, trash, etc. – looking at pinch points and will share with the City for their Comprehensive Plan.

Partners – discussed above.

John talked about email Michele received from Ducks Unlimited and what RFC plans were re: waterfowl hunting from Palisade to Loma. Bennett talked about being defined and non defined. Not in the City limits but other area okay. Discussed how to respond. Want list and proposal

from them. Lots of issues involved. Bennett to talk to Brad to get set of bullet points so know how to respond.

John and Dennis announced new co-chair being Katie. John gave history of how co-chairs have been historically chosen in the past. Dennis is reupping but doesn't want to continue as co-chair.

Paul will be working on the BLM triangle.

John had meeting with Mesa County Commissioners and Tom Fisher – discussed need for IG agreement for ongoing maintenance. John talked about informal agreements in past.

John also talked about Tamarisk Coalition's \$5 million grant. City originally agreed to sponsor but backed out because of perpetuity of keeping tamarisk out of the river. Tamarisk Coalition does not want be responsible party so they are looking for another group to take on.

Funds were plugged into GOCO grant for tamarisk removal on Lower No Thoroughfare Wash for tamarisk removal but funds are not available until Tamarisk Coalition can find someone to sponsor the \$5 million grant.

Public Comment – There was no public comment

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.