

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Riverfront Commission

**Minutes
January 19, 2010**

Called to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by co-chair Katie Steele. Those present from the Commission were:

Katie Steele	Frank Watt	Gust Panos
Kathy Herzog	Reg Price	Bennett Boeschstein

Also present Steve Acquafresca, Paul Peck, Brad Taylor, Tom Fisher and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval – Bennett/Kathy. Motion passed.

Announcements – Strider run date moved to July 31st.

New Business – Retreat – looking at mid-April, which doesn't work for most members. May 1st appears to work. Will be touring three areas, Clifton Water, 29 to 27 ½ Road and Redlands Parkway to 20 Road. Social to following that evening and tentatively scheduled at the Pinon Grill.

Environmental Education – Bennett passed out info regarding the Educational Alliance that they would like to see the RFC doing more educational opportunities for school kids down to the rivers. Group would like to go for funding. He also talked about the Summer Sleuth Program through the City of Grand Junction. Biggest issue will be funding. Katie asked for clarification as to where program is targeted to – youth. Teresa Coons will be championing the cause to the school district.

Question asked if this would replace the Robb River Rally. Discussed having informational booth at other festivals and events rather than the rally. Katie has talked to Joe Skinner but still need to run by Maggie.

Frank talked about DOW Outdoors Heritage Days. Extension of Fishing Is Fun program. Had 1,000 participants last year and looking at 3,000 this year.

Tom talked about GOCO Special Opportunities Grant for \$1 million – if received, would allow County to purchase Compton, Bennett, Skinner and ? properties. County did receive GOCO grant for design for area from Connected Lakes to Fruita. Looking at grant opportunities through

HFA and ?. Looking for as much money as possible. Katie stated she was really impressed with amount of work done by County on right-of-way group.

Blue Heron trail repair – Michele updated group on failing trail. Paul talked about a State Trails Grant for repairs and maintenance. He will get more information.

Bennett talked about meeting he, Katie and Paul attended with Senator's Udall/Bennet and Representative Salazar's local office staff. Brought them up to date on RFC. They were interested in what RFC is doing. Wants to keep them in the loop and to talk to them about funding needs.

There was no further new business.

Old Business – Fruita – Ken unable to attend.

GOCO update – LNTFW is about 80% complete. Still need to complete approaches to the bridges, and lay more concrete. Think about 2 to 2 ½ weeks of work left once weather is nice.

Clifton Sanitation – bridges have been ordered – 19' and 31'. Concrete done in the spring, trail in July 2010 and bridge abutment in October 2010.

BLM Resource Plan – Paul updated what's going on. Eligibility process complete and will move forward in next step.

Speakers Bureau/PR – Kathy reminded everyone to turn in questionnaire. Remember to report speaking events to Michele. Michele added that laptop has been purchased, still needing to get projector.

There was no further old business.

Updates:

KAFM – Hannah Holmes talked about Water Course being held tonight. Looking at Lorie Gregor for the 26th.

Riverfront-Right-of-Way – Paul talked about Little Salt Wash to Reed Wash and that right-of-way is almost all in place. State Park in Fruita to I-70, negotiated and agreed upon price. Just waiting to see about GOCO grant. 340 east – lots of right-of-way in place. City of Grand Junction is working on preferred routes missing links on behalf of the County. Paul talked about alternate route on frontage road from 24 Road to Visitors Center. This would be short term project.

Walter Walker – willing to have trail through property. Will allow use of parking lot.

United Properties – surveyed and should be getting to County soon.

Talked about plans for going out to Palisade. Want preferred route along river and concerned

about alternate routes that go away from river and how hard it will be later to get trail along the river if trail in place along streets and roads.

Discussed agreement being worked on by County for all entities regarding maintenance.

Katie added that a lot of what's happening now so quickly is because of Brad's groundwork and work Bennett did out Fruita's way.

Map – Dennis D. unable to attend but he's still working on it.

Committee Reports:

UTC – Michele updated on Grand Valley Bikes progress in becoming non-profit and group's review of bike racks on the Main Street Uplift project.

Partners Report – Paul updated on McInnis Canyon work. Katie has applied to be on the new NCA.

Bennett will write letter for John to sign and get to John Salazar's office.

BLM received funding for feasibility study to get users away from tracks.

Fruita post plan – three crossings over river, Old Fruita Bridge, 340 and down by Snooks Bottom.

Public Comment – Bennett talked about group concerned about Los Colonias property not going anywhere. Have requested to be on next RFF agenda.

Frank asked to be on next RFC agenda.

There was no further public comment.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.