

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION  
683-4333**

**Riverfront Commission**

**Minutes  
February 15, 2011**

**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
Mary Ann Cooper	Leila Reilly	Kathy Herzog
Frank Watt	Ken Henry	Bennett Boeschenstein
Brian Meinhart		

Also present were Steve Acquafresca, Pete Firmin, Tom Fisher, Ron Wilson, Karen Jefferson, Paul Peck and Michele Rohrbach.

Paul Peck has changes/additions to the January 18, 2011 minutes.

Paul Von Guerard was guest.

Under New Business – second and third sentences should have read “Paul V. gave PowerPoint presentation of what has happened to the streambank erosion near the trail with erosion. Paul P. said still leaves questions of long-term streambank stability, potential future threat to the new trail, and need to stabilize the bank. Monitoring will continue this coming spring.”

Under Partners Report – Friends of the McGinnis should read McInnis. MC McGinnis Canyons NCA should read McInnis.

**Approval** – Ken/Bennett. Motion passed.

**Announcements** – RFC closed on Monday, February 21, 2011.

Retreat – Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Fruita Recreation Community Center

IGA meeting on Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00am at the BLM

No GOCO grant applications this cycle – Paul talked about none of the entities applying for a GOCO grant application in the March cycle. He also talked about coordinating efforts with all the entities for informational purposes.

Outdoor Heritage Day – April 30<sup>th</sup> – planning meeting on Thursday – need more volunteers to work the booth. Would like to have the graphics from the last trail meeting. Will need to contact MC to get before the event.

**New Business** –

Dominquez/Escalante NCA – Had first meeting in Jan. Five members from this area, Paonia, Delta, Mesa County. Katie Stevens gave the group great instructions on the laws. Katie feels that the group will be very engaged. Katie's job is to represent recreational and historical. She thinks the area that will be most contentious will be the motorized vs. non-motorized.

Bennett asked if the BLM is looking at the Gunnison as a wild and scenic designation.

There was no further new business.

### **Old Business –**

Recruiting new RFC members – could have possible 4 to 5 openings. John asked Bennett and he said that he spoke with Stephanie Tuin and she said there doesn't seem to be problem. If RFC members know of any qualified candidates, have interested parties go to [www.gjcity.org](http://www.gjcity.org) website and click on volunteer board.

Fruita Master Trail Plan – Ken thanked showed picture of what is happening in Fruita. He talked about what Fruita is doing, what Mesa County is doing and what the State is hoping to do. Pete said that he just received an email at 4:30pm talking about more budget cuts and he isn't sure how that will affect the State Parks' portion of planning, etc. Fruita has an agreement to connect a trail from Hwy 6 & 50 to the new Community Center. Mesa County is working hard to work around the federal regulations.

Had great turnout on Saturday for the grand opening of the new Community Center. Had over 400 people in the run with only two injuries.

25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Kathy said that group just met and that the PR committee had met but the fundraising and concert committee had not. Still unclear if will having funding for the concert so fundraising committee really needs to meet and move forward – still need a chair for the committee. Mary Ann then updated the group on what came out of the PR committee brainstorming meeting. Still need to work out timeline and funding needs so fundraising committee has direction. Kathy added that would like to have many of the things nailed down by summer.

County Project Update – Tom said at 60% design for the Fruita section (24 Road to Fruita Welcome Center). CDOT right-a-way will be tricky. Starting to get reaction from the public and working on that. Confident in the plan and think can adjust as needed. Still working on easements needed in that area. Having to work with all the various agencies involved with the assessment. IGA is all signed and finalized. Tom will get a copy to RFC office for RFC files.

John asked about the bridge over 32 ¼ Road. Tom said hasn't received update on that yet. Talked about the grant for C ½ Road. Tom said that was enhancement funds and isn't sure of the status of the project. Tom talked about the grants and when the funds are available and how long the project will take once it gets started (possibly year to year and half). John was asking if it

could be possible to have it done in 2012 for the 25<sup>th</sup> celebration. Tom said couldn't say for sure because of all the agencies involved.

Ken asked about the trail around the bend. Tom explained that it will sit on the rip wrap shelf CDOT has there. Tom said it will be the most expensive section of trail built.

Steve said the public contacting the County is will orchestration by educated group about the engineering aspect of that section. County is working on answering their concerns. Dennis D. said that CDOT is very supportive.

Educational Alliance – Bennett said that 46 classes have signed up. He read some of the locations that will be going to. He didn't have the numbers totaled but will get that information. Information will be forwarded to Cary Baird at Chevron.

Old Spanish Trail/Gunnison Bluffs – Leila said that Vicki Femlee and Bennett took on a tour of the area. The Shores property is going into foreclosure on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Leila contacted the attorneys for the property to see if they will donate about 17 acres and then another area of property with a conservation easement. She will follow up with the attorneys within eight to ten days.

NCA update – Kathy said that Steve was nominated for the chair position. At last meeting, Mesa State College came in and gave the results of the surveys and focus groups. Travel Management sections still came up number one. Will be forming subcommittees at the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in Delta at 8<sup>th</sup> and Grand at 3:00pm. Talked about the Wild and Scenic designation and what impact they could have. Paul said that comments are due in May for that resource Management Plan. John asked if the RFC has made any comments and Paul said not directly. John said probably should get something into them. Katie added that Leila should get something in for the Old Spanish Trail/Gunnison Bluffs.

Ken asked about the NCA proposed for Gateway. Steve talked about it and the process and discussions taking place. Steve said that the County is going to let Gateway decide what they want to happen.

### **Updates:**

KAFM – Mary Ann was suppose to be on the air but had a family emergency so Bennett had a KAFM employee on and he asked them questions about using the trail. Mary Ann agreed to be on this month. Ken stated that the City of Fruita is now a supporter of KAFM.

### **Committee Reports:**

UTC – Doug said that several UTC members have been very active in the 2035 plan. Many are very active in bicycle commuting. Working on updating the UTC Master Trail Plan.

Partners Report – Paul just added that Chris Hamm at the BLM has been reassigned so Michelle will be taking over his duty for the near future. He also talked about VOC working on the Sisters trail.

**Public Comment** – Pete said just waiting for signature.

Bennett added the Audubon event on February 21<sup>st</sup>. He said they are going to be showing the RFF video and would like to have an introduction by a member of the RFC. He added that the owls are back on the trail building their nest.

There was no further public comment.

**Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.