

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Riverfront Commission

**Minutes
June 21, 2011**

Called to Order

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

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| John Gormley | Dennis DeVore | Katie Steele |
| Bennett Boeschstein | Stacy Kolegas | Mary Ann Cooper |
| Kathy Herzog | Brian Meinhart | Stacy Kolegas |
| Frank Watt | | |

Also present were Roger ?, Donna ?, Patricia ?, Steve Macy, Karen Sjoberg, Eric ?, Rhoda, Steve Acquafresca, Brad Taylor, Jocelyn Mullen, Donna Ross, Mike Vendegna, Kathy Stahl, Milton Long and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval – Katie/Kathy. Motion passed.

Announcements – Passed around sign up sheet for collecting donations at the concerts.

Passed around sign up sheet for Monument Run on July 30th.

Thanked Paul Peck for all his efforts. Closed on his house yesterday and in the process of moving to Greeley. He will continue to work long distance on emergency funding.

New Business –

Grand Valley Peace and Justice – Karen gave a brief history of the group and the trash issue with the recent flooding along the river. They are making a proposal to do a river clean up to remove the trash that has been washed along the river banks and into the river. Group has had contact with Bob Richardson who will be doing a river cleanup on August 13th. Have had contact with the Sheriff's department about the issue. Will be working in conjunction with Bob's annual river cleanup in August. Karen added that the homeless coalition has the buy in for the clean up and Pepsi has offered a dumpster. Bob is looking at donations for the necessary dumpsters. Frank will be working with Pete to get a dumpster at Corn Lake. John asked the group to get info to Michele so she can get info out to all members of the three boards. John asked the group to get needs to Michele ASAP since there will only be one more meeting before the August meeting.

Damage Inventory on trails – Paul Peck suggested that an inventory be done so can see if RFC can go after emergency funds for repairs from current flooding. Blue Heron section that was repaired last year is damaged. Frank added that the weather service has prediction of peak on Sunday and more damage is expected so looking at damage now probably a waste of time so should wait until after Sunday. Mike said the City has been inspecting the trail daily, monitoring

and closing off sections as needed. Talked about a temporary realignment but running out of easement. Currently not seeing a lot of damage but the boat launch is a real mess. Question asked about flooding. Steve stated that this is a 13 year flood but we are in a 10 year drought. Discussed the new sections of trail and the impact of flooding being considered for future trail building and trail repairs. Steve discussed maybe considering soft path trail that can be easily rebuilt and less costly. Steve M. talked about the trail in the State Parks. Island Acres has had serious erosion as well as in Fruita. Corn Lake has had water on the trail and need to see what it looks like it after the water goes down. Connected Lakes are now one big lake flowing into the river. Jocelyn asked that any entity that is doing trail repair that they get out really good warning signs to not only pedestrians but especially for bicyclists that are moving at a rather fast rate of speed, need more warning.

Maps – We're currently down to last 800 maps but will reprint current map in small quantity so that when new sections come on line we can have new maps done.

There was no further new business.

Old Business –

City of Fruita – Ken was out of town.

25th Anniversary – Dennis updated on what will be happening with the art contest. CMU students will be working on a commemorative bronze that will be donated to the Riverfront Foundation. CMU offered space for cocktail reception and dedication ceremony. Students need a theme so please get them to Kathy or Dennis. Will also need to determine where the bronze will be placed. Still trying to determine the type of artwork and looking for donations for prize packages.

Added that other dates have been chosen for Banana's Family Fun night, March 3rd and Family Fun Run/Bike event on Saturday, May 5th.

County/Fruita connection – Donna updated on Phase II and Phase III. Just about done with 30% design on Phase II. Heading into fall grant cycle for GOCO river initiative grant. Bennett and Mike asked Mesa County to consider them when applying for the grant. Also looking at a State Trails grant. Mesa County Planning has issued approval for Phase I and appeals process just about ready to close. Steve talked about the "narrows" that was some residents have objection to and looking at it during high, fast water, there really isn't much energy at that point. Will be very costly to construct "c" wall in that area. If trail had been constructed during this flood, trail would still be above the flood waters.

Educational Alliance – Bennett said he has received one report from one teacher. Still waiting on a more detail report.

Old Spanish Trail – Bennett said one of the parcels is going to tax sale in a couple of months. Not the Shores property but the one next to it (Orchard Mesa Estates). Trust for Public Lands is looking at that.

National Conservation Area – Katie said last two meetings they studied the Wild and Scenic areas and had great input of what should be deemed suitable and not suitable. Steve A. deemed all five areas not deemed suitable and motion passed. She talked about the wash out and will be discussing that and Cactus Park area at next meeting.

Capstone – Nothing new to report.

New Members – had seven people apply for five positions. Not sure if interview appointments have been set up. Discussed the process and the entities that will be there during the interviews.

Updates:

KAFM – Frank was on last month and discussed upcoming flooding and Blue Grass Festival. Bennett thinks Mike with the City would be good. Mike said he would need more details.

Committee Reports:

UTC – Jocelyn said the group continues to work on the Urban Trails Master for Ken Simms. Board is back down to seven (only had one applicant, two members left and one re-upped). Jocelyn reminded the group about Bike to Work Day tomorrow.

Partners Report – John said that Michele will email out Paul’s final report so everyone can see Paul’s updates.

Public Comment – Milton talked about the trash in the beach in the desert in Arizona and what people who camp along the river need trash receptacles.

John thanked the City, County and State Parks for attending the meeting. Group really appreciates their attending the meetings.

Thanked John, Kathy and Dennis for serving.

There was no further public comment.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.