

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION  
245-0045**

**Urban Trails Committee**

**Minutes  
November 8, 2005**

**Called to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by co-chair, Tim Fry. Those present were from the Committee were:

Denise McGinnis  
Lydia Reynolds  
Paul Darr

Janet Hollingsworth  
Tim Fry

Ken Lane  
Bob Tallarico

Also present were Shawn Cooper and Michele Rohrbach.

**Approval of Minutes**

The last sentence from the October minutes should be deleted. Ken/Janet. Motion passed.

**Announcements**

Craig to attend RFC meeting on November meeting.

County will need Public Meeting Room in December – does UTC want to meet? RFC isn't sure about social. Michele won't know until RFC meeting. UTC does want to meet so group will need to plan on meeting in Training Room. Michele will let know if room is different.

**Old Business**

There was no old business.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

**Committee Reports**

Presentation made at last RFC meeting. RFF raised questions regarding ownership issues of property once completed. Would prefer concrete over asphalt. RFF pledged \$50,000

– will need to find more money. Kent is going back to County to find out price difference for concrete. Will also find out how much in-kind has been done. Denise will talk to Steve Moore about State Trails Grants.

Tim discussed City Resolution passed in 1994 and RFC concerns of competing trail groups for grant money. RFC asked the City if Urban Trails could be under them, City said yes. Discussed document – Bob feels need more cooperative effort with City Planning. Tim said some of the directives have been met and document was enlightening. Michele stated UTC files didn't even contain document and knows that group has not in past used the document to govern itself.

Bob is concerned about small town thinking by canal companies. Need to be looking into drainage ditches and washes. Janet agrees with Bob that City needs to step up.

Tim talked about something Robert is working on. Robert has been meeting with Planning Commission to get their feel for canal trails. He's developing a memorandum to present to City Council.

Bob said need to implement UTC Master Plan. City has adopted UTC Master Plan that does show proposed trails on canals. With having them on master plan, City can ask for dedication of easement at time of development. Disconnect is where development has occurred in past – going back to get trail connections on developed parcels. Shawn said City isn't having problem getting easements in new developments; trails aren't being built until it will connect to go somewhere.

Denise talked about liability issue and owners concern. Shawn said City was willing to do fee title to negate liability issue.

Talked about some pieces of property that current owners no longer own but ownership is in question. Paul said Robert has map showing numerous parcels without ID numbers at Assessors office. City Attorney would need to draft deed to take to Assessor claiming "no man" properties. Bob thinks City should rezone the canals. Town needs trails.

Paul said as simple as the trail he and Robert were working on, Land Company didn't want to let UTC has easement because they haven't developed the property.

UTC doesn't have political clout and that what's UTC needs.

Ken really thinks a petition signed by trail users and then present to City Council. Several UTC members liked petition idea. Ken thinks they need to go through the front door rather than the back door. Thinks it would be easy to get 5,000 signatures. Bob asked if it would be specific or broad. Ken thinks should keep very general and broad. He suggested a demonstration project.

Bob keeps referring to how to come up with off street trails – not just canal trails. If resolution isn't mandate, then need to get mandate. Trail users are necessarily within the

City. Paul said City and Canal companies were close to an agreement but then Canal Companies sued the City. Michele stated that UTC is somewhat foreign to City Council members since there are so many new ones.

Shawn explained how City's budget monies work. He feels UTC was created to get people down to the river via North and South corridors. Things have evolved over time. He talked about how trails are included in other projects (example 6.5 miles on Redlands Parkway). Talked about how eventually trails on canals will happen but maybe not for another 10 to 20 years.

Talked about taking a several prong approach; petition, civil disobedience and back door method.

Shawn talked about property owned by City via fee title behind Moonridge Falls. Canal company has gated it off which surprised him because City owns ½ mile on south side and ¼ mile on north side.

Janet thinks it's something should look into to get homeowners support. Ken volunteered to get language together for petition and pass it by Robert and other UTC members. Suggested made to word document stating "We are in support of City Council to pursue off road trails....."

Shawn talked about bike ride he took from I-70B on north side of canals to Canyonview Park. It was great, just a few areas where you had to crossover (?).

Summary of meeting:

- Petition

- Presentation to City Council

- Demo project

- Site tour over lunch hour or after work (Michele to poll members to see what would work)

Janet thinks group needs to meet in December.

Shawn asked if UTC would like him to talk to Director of Planning Commission. Group said yes.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.