

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Urban Trails Committee

**Minutes
May 14, 2008**

Called to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:40pm by co-chair, Tim Fry. Those present from the Committee were:

Tim Fry

Denise McGinnis

Mark Williams

Joe Moreng

Steven Bliss

Also present was Shawn Cooper and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes – It was noted that Julie’s name was missing from last month’s meeting minutes. Denise/Mark.

Announcements – 2008 Concert Series has been scheduled.

Bike Festival on Saturday, May 17th – downtown from 9am to 1pm.

Tim to attend RFC meeting on May 20th.

Geocaching filming tomorrow at Sherwood Park.

Old Business – 5 point plan. Paul not here and Tim didn’t follow up with him. Talked about how to get back up to G Road. Need to stay on north side of canal. Will need a bridge to get back up to G Road. Probably need two bridges.

Mark asked about hiring an engineering firm for bridges. Michele reminded him that there is no money to hire one. Shawn suggested seeing if could find someone willing to do pro bono. Shawn also suggested consider doing up and back without getting to G Road. He talked about trying to get a space for a neighborhood park with parking, gazebo, etc. with development.

Tim updated Shawn on what trying to do – have money lined up before going to City Council. Tim asked how does UTC get design layout and \$ amounts. Shawn will have ready for next meeting. Want to keep natural – no concrete or paving.

Tim stated might want to find \$ for park that trail would tie into. City would probably come up with money for park. Council would probably like since they want to see more parks. Remaining items will feed off this part.

Shawn talked about short connection if canal trail is shot down. Linking six subdivisions to proposed park.

Mark updated on Canal Company meeting he attended. Mr. Eldridge gave history of canal companies concerns. Canal companies want people on canal banks to be considered as trespassers due to lower liability for them. They don't want users to be considered as invitees – higher liability.

Mark feels need to define and address the invitee and trespasser issue. Determine the line.

Shawn talked about canal companies being a user because City owns the property. He said he'll work on addressing those issues when designing the trail. He wondered out loud if putting out curb stops 10 to 12 feet out from the edge of the canal on other side 6 foot trail. Talked about inviting people to “attractive nuisances”. Shawn said canal companies would have access to use entire width but pedestrian can't and would be trespassing if they were on the other side of the curb stops.

Signs and barriers would probably be more appealing to canal companies. Shawn will work on signage too.

There was no further old business.

New Business – Joe asked about proper way to answer regarding canal banks being deeded to City with no penalty to applicant. Shawn said City didn't necessary own easement – just asking for “over riding public access”. Shawn will check with John Shaver as to what the proper wording should be.

Discussed having fee title on larger canals and easements on smaller canals.

There was no further new business.

Community Reports – stated above - Bike Festival on May 17th.

Public Comment – No public comment.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.