

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333

Urban Trails Committee

Minutes
July 14, 2009

Called to Order

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

Keith Dickerson	Julie Sabin	Elizabeth Collins	Joe Moreng
Jocelyn Mullen	Paul Darr	Jennifer Moore	Steve Bliss
Mark Williams	Doug Conant		

Also present were Keelin Schaffrath, Laurie Kadrach, Terri Dunn, Paul Nelson and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes – Julie/Biz. Motion passed.

Announcements – Farewell to Steve. Thanked him for all his great work. Introduced new members. Explained how to get to Michele's office. RFC office will be closed on Thursday, July 16th.

Old Business – Paul introduced Laurie Kadrach, City Manager and gave group a brief history regarding his and Mark's meeting with her on canal banks. Paul also gave history on UTC Master Trail Plan and City's Comprehensive Master Trail Plan.

Laurie gave update on her meetings with the canal companies to hear their concerns. She had City staff put together a map that shows what has been done, what's on ground. Working with BLM on urbanized corridor. Also working with Congressional delegates for stimulus funds. Highline is owned by Feds and looking at trail on that part. UTC had asked City to look at UTC's purpose. Council hasn't had discussion yet – on committee #25. Will get to UTC in due time. At Paul's meeting with Laurie it was decided that UTC would not take trail to GVIC. Has been told canal companies not ready for canal bank trails.

Paul asked if it's still City's policy for UTC to review plans and asking for trails. Laurie said yes but continues to cause problems.

Discussed how other communities have dealt with liability issues.

Canal companies feel map being passed out to public (it isn't – only UTC members and City Planning Staff have map).

Paul talked about article in Denver Post about Boulder County's discussion of eminent domain.

Paul Nelson gave history of what he's been involved in – City Council, RFC and UTC. Added that there has been historical use of canal bank trails.

Laurie talked about drainages that are federally owned and close to canal banks. Paul read what is being considered in comprehensive plan. Hopes can do a demo project – Audubon trail has been there for 30 years and hasn't had a problem. Historically other places find canal banks become safer when more people using than way things are now.

Joe said need to address concerns of private property issues. He also asked about federal money to bury canals.

Julie talked about GVIC's lawyer on water park said if liability goes away then they'd be on board but they turned other members working in background to sink the deal.

Mark talked about his meeting with GVIC. He believes all concerns can be met. He thinks canal companies are contemplating the possibility of a trail.

Jocelyn asked about future meetings with City regarding other areas and existing trails.

Thanked Laurie for attending.

Jennifer asked if City looking to appoint a "Bicycle Coordinator". Laurie said there are three people assigned to that: Shawn Cooper, Jody Kliska and Time Moore.

Laurie said map should be ready in couple of months.

Julie talked about her conversation with Todd Hollenbeck. Invited to workshop on August 20th. He seemed open to hearing from UTC.

Mark to attend RFC meeting on July 21st. (Paul explained this to new members).

There was no further old business.

New Business – Paul told new members that UTC is happy to hear ideas.

Joe talked about plan reviews and maybe not having everyone review but dedicated few. Paul asked Michele to put on next agenda plan reviews and UTC accomplishments.

There was no further new business.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Julie said subcommittee has met three times and will be back to UTC or RFC.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.