

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION  
245-0045**

**Urban Trails Committee**

**Minutes  
September 14, 1999**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order by at 7:30pm by member, Robert Traylor. Those present from the Committee were:

Robert Traylor  
Bill Findlay

John Paxson  
Birgit Bostelman

Also present were Jody Kliska, Jeff Hofman, Alan Schroeder and Michele Rohrbach.

**Approval of Minutes**

John motioned to approve the minutes from the July 13<sup>th</sup> and the August 10<sup>th</sup> meetings. Bill seconded. Motion passed.

**Announcements**

There were no announcements.

Robert welcomed guest, Alan Schroeder who is with the BOR.

**Old Business**

Michele informed the group that Stuart Macdonald has sent the new State Trails Grant Applications for 2000-2001 which is due by December 3. Michele gave a copy to Bill.

There was no further old business.

**New Business**

Bill brought up the UTC's mission statement that was sent out in the City's utilities statements. He feels that it should be re-written to reflect more of what UTC is doing with trails in subdivisions and canal banks not just linking trails to the riverfront. Bill suggested it could be a topic of discussion for the retreat. Robert asked everyone to look it over and come up with ideas for further discussion at a later time. Bill asked that a copy be sent with the minutes.

There was further new business.

## **Committee Reports**

Master Plan - Ken was unable to attend. Bill passed around Ken's e-mail. Discussion was about work on trail by Ken's house that needed work. He proposed a group work party on 9/23 with pizza and beer afterwards. Ken was supposed to fax documents with his comments on bike trails/signage, etc. to Michele today, however, she never received them.

Robert wanted to know how the group felt with Ken's suggestion of working with the Tour of the Valley to get permanent signage for the tour route. Will require working with the City and County since the route is not part of the Master Plan. Jody suggested doing an overlay of tour route(s) (per Jody, there are four routes) onto the Master Plan.

Community Awareness - John reached Professor Regis Toosie at Mesa State's Communications/Media Department. Assignments have been done for this semester but would like to do next semester. John said they were looking for a six to eight minute video in sections (perhaps three) rather than the 15 minutes the Professor was proposing. Professor Toosie has invited committee to come talk with his class and tell the class what it is UTC is looking for. Bill suggested that if the video is too long for UTC perhaps RFC might be interested in doing something on it too.

Birgit stated that US West said it's a go on the map. It will be in the new phone books in April and it will be two pages.

Robert asked how it was going talking to groups. John said they haven't spoken with any groups since he and Jamie spoke with the Rotary group. Michele said at last RFC meeting, members gave Jamie a list of groups to contact.

Recreation use of the canal banks - Bill asked if everyone got a copy of the survey. Many of the members attended the workshop and know what the survey says. Bill highlighted the key pointed - 31% of the people in the area are now using the canal banks and of those that don't use (19%) because it's illegal said they would if it would be legal which is 50% of the adult population of the City or 15,000 people. The number of surveys returned was very high - much higher than the usual amount. Talked about landowners surveyed and lastly about where to go and what to do next.

Bill said that it was discussed at the meeting at Jamie's office that a demonstration project would be best if could find an area where the landowners weren't going to be a problem. Want to keep it in the urban area and find a streamline way of approaching owners and canal companies. Possibly using an area where people are using the canals already.

Bill passed around a list of possible demonstration projects with rating information. Members will use to evaluate each project for pros and cons.

Jeff asked if anyone remembered the study done by the BOR a couple of years ago. Further discussion was had about the feasibility study done and objections by the canal companies after it was done.

Robert suggested looking at the maps for connectivity. Jody said that a segment of the Horizon Drive trail has been constructed and they have money from CDOT to construct more of it next year. It will be a trail to nowhere if can't get onto the canal. Group looked at map and looked at trails that would be workable and to destinations that are practical using the canal banks. Robert suggested members think about which projects that have the most going for them and break it down into questions that need to be answered.

**Public Comment** - Alan Schroeder stated that the UTC should be discussing a demonstration project with members of the canal companies at the table. He felt is wasn't fair for UTC to be having the discussion without members of the canal companies present. Robert and Bill explained the history of the feasibility study and this was just a preliminary discussion. The canal companies would be contacted when a segment was chosen and facts were gathered to do presentation to get their input.

There was no further public comment.

**Adjournment** - Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.