

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION**  
683-4333

**Riverfront Commission (RFC)**

**Minutes**  
**August 18, 2015**

**Called to Order:**

Meeting called to order at 5:35pm by co-chair Brad Taylor. Those present from the Commission were:

Karen Jefferson	Stacy Beaugh	Claudette Konola
Cliff Sprinkle	Dr. Bill Findlay	Dr. Larry Copeland
Gale Foster		

Absent: Frank Watt, Eric James, Claudette Konola and Bob Fuller

Also present were Lorie Gregor with the City of Grand Junction, Katie Steele with the Riverfront Foundation, Pete Firmin with the James M. Robb Colorado River State Park, Bennett Boeschentein, City of Grand Junction Council Member and Michele Rohrbach.

**Approval of Minutes** – Correction to July meetings were: date was incorrect and Pete Firmin said Clifton Water not Nature Center. Dr. Larry Copeland/Karen. Motion passed.

**An announcement** – Los Lonely Boys concert is September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Michele reminded members that volunteered to be Sponsor Greeters and donation bucket collection.

IGA meeting on Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00am at BLM office

RFC office closed starting on September 4<sup>th</sup> through October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Volunteers needed for Tour of the Moon – Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Did introduction around the room for Gale Foster new board member.

**Updates –**

Mesa County – Greg unable to attend.

City of Fruita – Bob unable to attend.

City of Grand Junction – Bennett B. said Las Colonias is coming back to City Council.

Amphitheater cost came back at \$3 million rather than the \$1 million originally quoted. Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) funds can't be used for the amphitheater but could be used for parking lot. He doesn't think City will be going for GOCO funds. Looks like will need to scale back from 10,000 seating to something smaller. Will also want to encourage people to walk, bike and provide shuttle buses for large concerts. Will need to go back to the Riverfront Foundation, Downtown Development Association and other foundations for money.

Town of Palisade – Bennett P. unable to attend.

Colorado Parks & Wildlife – Pete said the Clifton Water parcel has been surveyed and he will be meeting with Clifton Water on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. He said that hunting needs to be allowed so that improvements can be made.

**New Business** – Graffiti Artist work under Riverfront Trail Bridges – Lorie Gregor explained Mural Jam and that it has been happening over the years at the City’s skate parks. The artists have approached the City to move their work from the panels at Westlake Skate Park to something bigger. The bridges along the Riverfront Trail came up as a good place similar to work done along the Pueblo Riverfront Trail. She said that the artists would be vetted. She stated that when artwork goes up, it minimizes the tagging. She wanted to know if the RFC would be interested in the project and be the face to promote the project. Stacy asked how the project would be funded. Lorie said the art commission usually can find the funds. Doesn’t really take much in the way of funding unless decided to go with a brochure. Five areas have been identified for the project. Could feature on RFC website and the City’s Art and Culture website. Group was in favor as a way to put a positive reason for the trail. Lorie asked if the RFC would have a member that would like to be represented at a larger meeting.

Colorado Gives Day – Michele explained what she needs for the Collaboration’s Facebook page and that could be used for RFC Facebook page and website.

**Old Business:**

Stacy reviewed what she presented at the July meeting regarding the One for Valley Concept idea for fundraising. The idea is a voluntary surcharge program where a business volunteers to participate and the customer can opt-in or opt-out. It appears to work best when the business uses an opt-out. The business is only acting as the transactor and then passes the funds onto the organization 1% being raised for.

She stated that COPMOBA Sales for Trails has a similar program and the Palisade Fruit and Byway Program is considering one. Would want to act soon because it could become very crowded with other groups using the same type of program.

Katie said she thinks education is going to be the key and challenging. Need to be very clear when talking with local elected officials that this isn’t a tax but voluntary. The businesses get a “feel good” and advertising out of it.

Discussed why so much of the public is unaware of the riverfront project. Go back and explain the basics of environmental clean up over the past 28 years, not just promoting the trail.

Stacy will need to ask the RFF for some funding, talk to CMU to help with the study. Stacy asked for a couple of members from RFC to help work on the project. Karen wants to see all RFC members involved in the process.

Stacy said she will share the info gathered from the work previously done by the Tamarisk Coalition staff.

Stacy asked what the next steps are. Brad said need to know how many dollars does the project need today, next year and the next year. Set timeframes and homework of companies willing to do Request for Proposal (RFP). Karen wants to see who did the feasibility study for Crested Butte and Verde River Group. Who would be recipients of the funding raised. Will need to come up what programs would qualify for the funds.

Stacy and Michele will gather info from Tamarisk Coalition and funding ideas before the next RFC meeting.

Cliff talked about his conversation with Harry Griff regarding funding for the Las Colonias amphitheater that Harry will probably want to go to RFF for additional funding. He would like to come to next RFC meeting and do pitch.

**Public Comment** – Michele added that Steve Smith with the City GIS stated that you can now click on the riverfront trail on the City GIS riverfront map and right click on map and the Google Street Map comes up. Working on how to get the link onto the RFC website.

Pat Gormley's memorial service is Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:00pm.

There was a negative online letter to the Daily Sentinel not very nice for Palisade but favorable for riverfront trail.

Brad needs to write a letter of support for the Tour of the Moon in case of another government shutdown this year.

**Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.