

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333

Riverfront Commission (RFC)

Minutes
June 21, 2016

Called to Order:

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by co-chair Frank Watt. Those present from the Commission were:

Frank Watt	Claudette Konola	Dr. Bill Findlay
Cliff Sprinkle	Dr. Larry Copeland	

Also present Kyle Harvey, Fruita City Council member, Bennett Price, Town of Palisade Board member and Michele Rohrbach.

Absent – Bob Fuller’s is currently vacant, Eric James, Brad Taylor, Stacy Beough, Karen Jefferson, Gale Foster.

Approval of Minutes – Quorum not present.

Announcements – CRCS donation collected was \$2,220+.

Reminded everyone of the Little Salt Wash Trail dedication on July 20th. Will be receiving invite shortly.

Updates –

Mesa County – Greg was unable to attend.

City of Fruita – Kyle talked about the Little Salt Wash Trail construction and the dedication on July 20th.

City of Grand Junction – No representation for City of Grand Junction.

Town of Palisade – Frank said the Town of Palisade is going to be putting in an air pump and repair station next to the bike park east of the park. Mesa County has gotten all the signs up on 29 Road. Michele hasn’t heard any comments. Frank has sent a detailed email to Chris Kehmeir with the State to see if he can help get the trail under the 29 Road Bridge. Blue Grass Festival went really well. Sold about 300 more tickets this year than last year. Will have final numbers at the next meeting.

Bennett Price is in the process of moving his winery to the Old Packing Shed and former Century House restaurant which will be his new tasting room. He told the group of the trials of trying to move into the new location. He needed to move because of the Distillery expansion.

Frank said the Town is moving forward on the Palisade Plunge. Have met with the Forest Service and the meeting went great. They did bring up some specifics about the watershed as did Colorado Parks and Wildlife. They brought up a trail that was built by Otto and there is a monument there. They said it would be a better trail location and would be great to rehab an old trail. Should hear on the FLAP grant on July 1st.

Colorado Parks & Wildlife – Pete said the State is getting ready for the new fiscal year and there is some money to pave the trail to the boat launch. Anticipated construction in the fall. First concert went really well. New fencing is great and much appreciated. There is some funding available for boat launch.

New Business – Education Presentation Box – Larry would like to have a box that can be checked out when someone goes to do a presentation to a school or a civic group. (Will bring back to the agenda for August).

E-bike ban recommendation to our partners – Frank understands that commuting bike cyclists use the riverfront trail but the trail was built as a non-motorized trail and \$20 million of GOCO could be in jeopardy.

Proposed sundial donation for the riverfront. Passed around a picture of the piece to be donated. Kyle asked if there was a section of trail that kids are taken to for educational purposes. Las Colonias, Connected Lake and Audubon Trail would be good locations.

Air station placement at the Blue Heron parking lot. – Tabled until August.

Facebook grant request – Claudette reviewed numbers from Facebook likes and the % of followers and where they are from. She explained the event she created for the March Fourth Marching Band concert. She went home after the concert and created an event for the subdues concert. She would like to up the numbers of folks viewing her event post by paying for cost for views. She would like \$50 now with another \$25 later. \$25 would be for the subdues concerts and \$25 for the Buckwheat Zydeco concert. The last \$25 would be used during the Colorado Gives Day campaign. She explained that the RFC would pay at the end of the campaign and for only the clicks based on the amount she set up as limit. Group liked to idea and asked her to use a 250 miles radius to touch folks in Moab, Rifle, Glenwood Springs, Aspen, Vail, Delta, Montrose even Denver.

Old Business:

Voluntary Surcharge – will be the only item on the July agenda.

Retreat update – list of projects to get to Chris Kehmeir – Frank would like to table until more RFC folks are present.

Public Comment – Larry updated on his meeting with Darwin Hindman who spearheaded the Katy Trail in Missouri. It's a Rails to Trails trail – runs from St. Louis to Kansas City on the Missouri River. He asked questions Stacy had provided him before he left. (Larry to email questions and comments to Michele so she can forward onto the group). He explained the

Missouri state law that states there was no liability for the entities for users. Darwin said it's important to work with your State's elected official. The entire trail is now a State Park. He also stated that trails are used by more affluent users. Columbia brought in a business with 500 employees – business narrowed down to three cities and Columbia was chosen based on the Katy Trail. Branson has said that the trail has had a positive impact on the people it brings to their community.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.