

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333

Riverfront Commission (RFC)

Minutes
August 15, 2017

Called to Order:

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

Karen	Jefferson	Stacy Beaugh	Orilee	Witte
	Dr. Larry Copela	Gale Foster		Claudette Konola
	Rondo Laura	Tyre	Laney	Heath
	Cathy Ventling	Dr. Fred Barbero		

Also present Pete Firmin, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Traci Weiland, City of Grand Junction, Libby Collins, Mesa Land Trust and Michele Rohrbach.

Did introductions around the room for new members.

Absent –all board members were present.

Approval of Minutes – Stacy/Claudette. Motion passed.

Announcements – Volunteers needed for Tour of the Moon – Friday, September 29th and Saturday 30th. Michele passed around sign up sheet.

Volunteers needed for UTC/City of Grand Junction Community Streets Event on Saturday, October 7th. Michele passed around signup sheet.

Updates –

Mesa County – Greg was unable to attend.

City of Fruita – Kyle was unable to attend.

City of Grand Junction – Chris was unable to attend.

Town of Palisade – Bennett was unable to attend.

Colorado Parks & Wildlife (CPW) – Pete said the CPW will move forward with developing a policy on allowing Class 1 and 2 e-bikes on the trails but no Class 3. Must have Class and wattage displayed prominently on each bike. Still have concerns of the slippery slope of what will be the next motorized item wanting to use the trails – segways, electric skate boards, motor cycles and golf carts.

No AnnaBanna Run this year. Moonlight Marathon the first Saturday in October – half marathon.

New Business – Connect Initiative – Monument Road to Lunch Loops Trail – Libby gave a brief history of the project for new RFC members and where the project is now. Phase I is connecting up to Lunch Loops.

She also explained the GOCO Inspire Grant and what it is and how to get the kids out on the trails. The Inspire Grant supports the Connect Initiative. The only way to get to Lunch Loops is by car on Monument Road. The connection would allow users to access the Riverfront Trail and Lunch Loops without having to get into a car. Much safer for users to stay off the road. Road riders will continue to use the road. Mesa Land Trust (MLT) is requesting \$50,000 for their Connect Initiative. Stacy explained to new members how the process works and what steps are taken to forward the request onto the Riverfront Foundation (RFF). Other funding sources are coming from the City of Grand Junction and Mesa County is matching the City's (\$225,000 over three years). MLT is working on private funding requests to Gates Family Foundation and Colorado State Trails.

Karen asked if it could be spread over the same number of years as the City's and Mesa County's pledge amount. Traci said it's a three year project so could do the same for the RFF if that would make it easier for the RFF.

Ground breaking is tentative scheduled for June, 2019. Traci added that the project has been vetted and this project is one of eight project applying for the funds. Claudette motioned to move it to the RFF. Gale amended the motion that it could be funded over three years. Larry second. Motion passed.

City of Fruita/Welcome Center Grant Request – Orilee gave a brief background on the signage at the Welcome Center, the signs have deteriorated over the past 30 years and the info is out of date. She has gotten eight agencies involved in replacing the signs and making some improvements to the area in front of the Welcome Center. Each panel will cost about \$800. The City of Fruita and Welcome Center are able to apply for a grant from the State and CDOT will provide funding and has offered up ideas how to protect the signs. Karen said that it's a great Welcome Center and Orilee does a great job. Ture is asking for \$400 for half of a single panel from the RFF. Orilee added that the Welcome Center is now considered a trailhead. Gale motioned to approve the \$400. Stacy second. Motioned passed.

New Member Orientation – passed around Commission Member Expectation and each member received a thumb drive that has:

- RFC Schedule
- Board Member Directory
- Strategic Plan
- Retreat Notes
- One Riverfront Presentation
- One Riverfront Brochure

- Colorado Riverfront Concert Series Brochure
- Map
- 30 Year Over Night Sensation
- New Logo – two versions

Board Member Expectations – Stacy reviewed the document (Michele needs to email it out to RFC for thumbdrives). She talked about the Intergovernmental Agency (IGA) meetings. There is a lot of info and players to grasp the project so if anyone has questions, feel free to contact her, Karen, Michele or Pete. (Michele to email at IGA meeting schedule for the September 7th and December). Laney volunteered to be the liaison at the September meeting.

Karen stated that the rest of the orientation will happen at subsequent meetings.

Schedule Bike Tour – Karen explained how Brad Taylor and his wife, Patty took her out over two weekends to ride the trail. She found this to be a great way to help orientate members on the trail. Starting point, Edgewater and ride to Kannah Creek West. She's looking at September 16th or 23rd or October 14th dates. Karen added that family is welcome. Michele to include RFF. September 16th wasn't good for most of the group. Michele will send out a Doodle Poll.

Old Business: Round of Up for the Riverfront – Stacy gave a brief history of what the project is and how it will work and how the RFC is focusing on raising funds for the Riverfront project through this project. She talked about the Colorado Mesa University (CMU) survey. Currently have one business signed up (Lotus Therapeutics). She explained about the logo change, website changes, business list and what the RFC role is in recruiting businesses.

Due to time constraints, old business was tabled until October meeting.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.