

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION  
683-4333**

**Riverfront Commission**

**Minutes  
May 15, 2012**

**Called to Order:**

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

Katie Steele	Brad Taylor	Frank Watt
Leila Reilly	Stacy Beaugh	Brian Meinhart
Mary Ann Cooper	Karen Jefferson	Ken Henry

Also present were Donna Ross, Greg Linza, Al Phister, Earl Stitt interested guest, Mike Vedegna, Amanda with KREX , Pete Firmin and Michele Rohrbach.

**Approval** – Mary Ann/Stacy. Motion passed.

**Announcements** – IGA float first Friday of June (need to contact Katie Stevens about take out can no longer back down to take out – have to carry out rafts).

June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting in Palisade Riverbend Park – potluck – will be a listening meeting with the Town Board and interested residents. August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting in Fruita.

Concert Series schedule – Michele will email.

Volunteers to pass bucket – sign up sheet at June meeting.

Monument Run – sign up sheet at June meeting.

**New Business** – Brad talked about grassroots effort to promote the riverfront project and how and what can be done to raise awareness. No further meeting scheduled but discussed going to service clubs to engage others in the riverfront.

Katie added that the BLM is also working on a similar program.

There was further new business.

**Old Business** –

Fruita Connection – Greg presented the flyover done for GOCO in April. Discussed the issues with Phase II and Phase III, start dates, anticipated completion dates and budgets. Karen asked if there was a way to get it onto the RFC site. Greg said he can check into it. Will know in mid-June when grants are awarded. Ken said Donna, Greg and Chantal did a fabulous job during the presentation. Donna added with the completion of Phase I will be working with Jessica Peterson with the County and RFC on ribbon cutting ceremony in July.

City of Fruita – Doing some preliminary work with trail coming from Community Center down to the river. Union Pacific said trail can't go under the railroad – Greg said will be meeting with

them in the next few weeks. Ken has met with Scott Tipton who told Ken to let him know if he can be of help.

Town of Palisade – Frank talked about the presentation he put together regarding the washout trail in Riverbend Park. He talked about the Army Corps concerns about the river dynamics. Applied for a permit in August of 2011 and still do not have an approved permit. Will be using two different designs that are heavily dependent on revegetation. Have proposed a take out for tubers and rafters (no vehicle access at this takeout). Frank has very small budget and currently way over that dollar amount. If and when get permit, will be good for two years. Possibility of going for other grants besides GOCO grant. Frank wants to protect the park and Corps wants to protect the canal but at what cost to the park. Greg said another GOCO grant coming out that has another \$13 million in the pot. GOCO staff has recommended that GOCO spend it on trail development.

Frank talked about something being considered at the State level where Governor Hickenlooper has asked them to reconsider the impact on communities.

City of Grand Junction – nothing new to report. Greg said the City did a great job of cleaning up the Blue Heron boat ramp for the GOCO tour.

25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – 5K/14 mile bike event was on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Had 27 pre-registered and 6 day of – was a gorgeous day. Group was disappointed in turnout but had lots of competition from other events taking place that day. Still waiting to see if broke even (will know once we have all the invoices).

Brady Trucking – nothing new to report.

Old Spanish Trail – nothing new to report.

National Conservation Area – Putting together their preferred alternative for the BLM. Open for public comment in two or three months.

CMU – Brad talked about the students report – he has given the limited copies to RFC members and asked them to pass the report on to another member when done reviewing. Students gave a CD with 65 or more files with tools that could help the RFC in moving forward with branding and more electronic media, TV with the assistance of CMU. Brad has spoken with Greg Mikolai about the possibility of using his department at CMU. Have support of CMU.

Katie passed around a template that Brad developed with committees. Katie would like all members to take a close look at the list and step up for one or more committee. Stacy asked if RFC will be prioritizing the list since the list could be a full time job for each board member.

Ken asked Donna if RFC could work with Jessica Peterson from the County's PR department to help with press releases.

Get Kids Outdoor – Chevron gave \$3,000 to the RFF. Leila asked the RFC thoughts on her going to the RFF and asking for match.

KAFM – Bennett said there won't be a show this week.

**Updates:**

**Committee Reports:**

UTC – Actively seeking new board members.

Partners Report – Al didn't have anything to report.

State Park – Pete said the Parks project came in lower than expected because contractor purchased rocks for a local orchard saving the park about \$200,000. He also talked about the LDS group that had a volunteer day of about 60 volunteers and would like to have another day in June. He doesn't have enough manpower and was wondering if RFC would be interested – Greg said he might have something for the group. Greg asked if he still has money for the trail design or did he need to use it for the trail repairs. Status of swimming at the lake – lake is still closed. Will continue to monitor on the north lake and consider if might not be better opening the south lake at a later date.

**Public Comment –**

There was no public comment.

**Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.