

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Riverfront Commission

**Minutes
July 17, 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	Karen Jefferson
Ken Henry	John Heideman	

Also present were Shannon Hatch with Tamarisk Coalition, Bennett Price, Town of Palisade Trustee, Dave Soker, interested party, Pete Firmin with State Parks and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval – Frank/Karen. Motion passed.

Announcements – Still need volunteers for the 8/16 concert to pass the bucket.

Need volunteers for the 5K.

August meeting in Fruita will be potluck similar to what we did in Palisade.

New Business – Stacy and Shannon talked about what the Tamarisk Coalition is doing and the partners involved in riparian areas. Effort includes government entities, private and individuals. Meeting tomorrow here in the County Courthouse in Annex, Training Room B starting at 9:00am to determine how will prioritize projects in using water grant funds.

They have been working with the City on restoration on Watson Island and Los Colonias since 20? Working on getting the remaining control work done and get the project into maintenance status. Have received grant money that will be used toward work on Watson Island.

Los Colonias and Matchett – City is looking to put it up coming budget planning.

Strategic Planning Retreat – RFF liked idea. Katie and Michele will schedule something for January or February.

Dave Soker said that nothing in writing given out after past retreats. Should go back through all past documentation and see what has been discussed so don't need to rehash. There needs to more accountability from RFC in prioritized projects.

Trail Naming Contest – Katie explained the thought of naming the “Fruita Connection” one name rather than each phase since most folks will only know it as the Riverfront Trail. Will have ballots at the ribbon cutting ceremony on August 10th and then that name will be placed on the permanent granite rock at the trailhead.

Names came up with: Walker Walter section, Monument View, John Otto section, Independence View and Red Rock Canyon, Coors Trail, Unity Section, Redlands Overlook, Soaring Eagles Nest, Lower Valley, Dinosaur Valley. Buzz words to help come up with: Greenway, Heritage, Grand Valley Connection, Dinosaur, Fruita – Junction Fruita.

Brad said he thinks that the RFC should set perimeters that no trail is named after a living or deceased person. Current trail names: Riverbend, Clifton Nature Center (33 ½ to 32), 32 Road to 31 Road is Corn Lake, 31 to 30 is Colorado Wildlife Area, 30 to 29 is Pear Park Section, Corn Lake, 29 to 27 ½ will need to be named in the future, then at Los Colonias, Watson Island, don't call section Jarvis, call something different maybe Confluence, the Riverside, Audubon, Connected Lakes,

Discussed the “Emergency Service Marker” that Greg Linza with Mesa County will be placing every ¼ mile along the trail. All markers will have the RFC logo that has been changed to have Riverfront wrapping around top of logo and Trail wrapping around bottom of logo. Frank said all entities and law enforcement like the markers.

Pete asked if it makes sense looking for corporate sponsorships for trails. Katie said group discussed having corporate sponsors on rocks, benches, signs but not the trail.

There was further new business.

Old Business –

New committees: Katie explained what the idea is for the committees and how board members will be involved and who will be point person:

Safety/Signs – Frank Watt (chair), want to include UTC, Bennett Boeschstein

Strategic Planning/Higher Education – Brad Taylor (chair), Stacy Beaugh, Karen Jefferson, John Heideman

Government Relations – Ken Henry, Brian Meinhart, Al Pfister, Leila Reilly, Stacy Beaugh

History – Brian Meinhart, Leila Reilly

Media Relations – Brian Meinhart, Brad Taylor, Karen Jefferson

Outreach – Stacy said kind of currently have this committee with the 25th – perhaps committee can re-evaluate after October event. Brad said he's seeing outreach as going to fork and knife clubs, more memberships. Decided to shelf until new members are on board, will discuss at September meeting.

Fruita Connection – nothing to report.

City of Fruita – nothing to report.

Town of Palisade – nothing to report.

City of Grand Junction – Bennett B. talked about Three Sisters planning meeting tonight at Lincoln Park Barn and how it will tie into Lower No Thoroughfare Wash. City working on budget and talking about Los Colonias (Trust for Public Lands and GOCO partners). Lions Club

is looking for signature project and Los Colonias looks to be the project for the next several years. If Lions Club announces Los Colonias as signature project hopefully City will get on board.

Weed Rodeo – bring a bag of weeds to County Fair and get free admission. Booth will have educational info available.

25th Anniversary – nothing new to report

Brady Trucking – nothing new to report.

Old Spanish Trail – nothing new to report.

National Conservation Area – nothing new to report

Get Kids Outdoor – Chevron gave \$3,000 to the RFF. RFF matched the \$3,000.

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

Brad talked about report he read about Colorado being 4th friendliest to bicycles.

Approached by group that would like to put on benefit concert.

Fruita business owner wants to see concerts continue and wants to work with the RFC.

Meeting on the 20th.

Updates:

Committee Reports:

UTC – Actively seeking new board members.

Partners Report – Al unable to attend.

State Park – nothing new to report.

Public Comment –

There was no public comment.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.