

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Riverfront Commission (RFC)

**Minutes
November 20, 2012**

Called to Order:

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

Katie Steele	Karen Jefferson	Cliff Sprinkle
Leilia Milliken	Ken Henry	Stacy Beagh
Claudette Konola		

Also present were Bob Fuller with the City of Fruita, Steve Macy with Parks and Wildlife, Bennett Boeschstein, Grand Junction City Council and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval – Ken/Claudette. Motion passed.

Announcements – IGA meeting on Thursday, December 6th at 7:00am at BLM office. Leila announced she has accepted a position in Santa Fe, NM and will be leaving at the end of the month.

New Business – RFC meeting in December? Group discussed whether or not to hold a meeting in December. Decision made to cancel the meeting.

There was further new business.

Old Business –

Strategic Planning – Brad unable to attend.

Safety and Signage – Frank unable to attend. Will be doing a survey on Survey Monkey sometime after the first of the year.

Government Relations – Brian unable to attend.

History – Ken Henry, Brian Meinhart, Leila Milliken, and Cliff Sprinkle – Ken said have two confirmed interviews for the first part of December and others are jotting down info (John and Pat Gormley). Bennett said that Helen Traylor had files that he's passed along to Michele.

Media Relations – Brian unable to attend. Dave Grossman with Urban Trails has offered to help get Facebook and Twitter setup. Katie has volunteered to come in and help Michele keep Facebook page updated.

Outreach – Katie Steele/Karen Jefferson – Katie talked about the tabs for everyone’s notebook and the information from each committee that has met for all members to be informed.

Updates:

Mesa County – Meet and Greet new elected officials on November 30th at the Center for Arts from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

Emergency Service Markers – will be installed during the week of December 3rd.

City of Grand Junction – Bennett passed around a Press Release on Kannah Creek building down in the new “LODO” of Grand Junction. Budget does have money for Las Colonias to redo the master plan. Lots of work going on down at Watson Island with the disc golf and tamarisk removal. Everything is going really well. Concern about removing all the underbrush for habitat and heavy equipment running over tree roots – concerns taken to the Parks and Rec Department and will leave some underbrush and no longer drive over the roots. Will be replacing signs vandalized with graffiti.

City of Fruita – Ken suggested perhaps going before City Council’s second meeting in February or first Tuesday in March. Bob stated that Mesa County has taken the lead on the Hwy 340 and should be going out to bid soon. Working with Colorado Mesa University to do some environmental studies on potential trails going out to Kokopelli Trails. Should have a report second quarter next year. Still no progress with the railroad with the box culverts and getting bids to move down a ways to bore a new culvert under the highway. Bennett said there is precedent with a trail under the railroad, 5th Street.

Town of Palisade – Frank unable to attend. Bennett Price was unable to attend.

Parks and Wildlife – Steve said he likes the idea of the Emergency Markers being installed - he is a first responder and sees the benefit of having the markers along the trail. Will be reseeding the dike in the spring. Wells Lake is now called Redrock Lake and there are fish in there.

KAFM – Bennett said he needs guest this month, Greg Trainor with the City of Grand Junction was on and talked about the City’s reservoir being at 60% and with little or no snow this year, could have impact next year.

Video – Bennett has been talking with PBS about doing a 25th Anniversary video and Greg Mikali but he’s too busy so he’s been talking with Mora with PBS. The Tamarisk Coalition and Erin Hoffman with PBS and ? were talking about to doing an EPA grant but realized that none of them were ready to move forward with applying for the grant. Group will refocus after the first of the year with environment education and more collaboration.

Get Kids Outdoors – Leila has said that there have been some outings but not sure if any have been down to the river but do have scheduled in the spring.

Tamarisk Coalition – Stacy gave brief history of the organization and what they're working on in the past few years. Been working on an Army Corps of Engineering study and once the study was completed, there was no federal dollars available so all the Partners got together to work on how to proceed with finding funding of \$250,000.

Tamarisk Coalition has been annually holding a conference to connect land managers and resources and this year they have the opportunity to coordinate with ? and will be March 11th through 15th.

Ken said the Ute Water approved and all signers have signed - minor issues to work out but will move forward.

Stacy said agreement being signed regarding the Colorado River and Delta.

Cliff said Kannah Creek has broken ground and slated to open in May. Will be another really good anchor down there and the owners are friends of the riverfront. Great economic development down in the area.

Committee Reports:

UTC –Working on the summit on Friday, March 8th. Will have four components: Economic, Recreational, Health and Transportation.

Partners – Al was unable to attend.

Dominquez/Escalante – Preferred alternative had been accepted and is back in DC. Group will be meeting in again in January.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.