

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333

One Riverfront (ORF)

Minutes
February 19, 2019

Called to Order:

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

Karen Jefferson, co-chair
Laurie Tyre
Orilee Witte
David Varner
JoAnna Woodruff
Catherine Ventling

Dr. Fred Barbero
Dr. Larry Copeland
Rondo Buechler
Dr. Tom Moore
Laney Heath

Also Libby Collins, Colorado West Land Trust, Ellen Miller, RoundUp Business Liaison, Traci Wieland, City of Grand Junction Parks & Rec, Duke Wortmann, Grand Junction City Council member, and Michele Rohrbach, ORF staff.

Absent: All members were present.

Approval of Minutes – Fred/Larry. Motion passed.

Announcements – IGA meeting on March 7th at 7:00am. Need a volunteer to lead the meeting. Rondo tentatively volunteered. Larry volunteered if Rondo can't make it.

ORF office will be closed second and third week of April. Will need volunteer to take minutes at April meeting.

March 25th is Volunteer Appreciation Dinner for the City of Grand Junction.

Partner Updates:

Colorado Parks & Wildlife – Pete talked about the possibility of a July 3rd concert but needs to talk with the City of Fruita. Tentatively have a hold for July 11th.

Ture Nycum and Mike Bennett approached Pete about a connector to Jurassic Court. Pete needs to do a little more research. It won't be a trailhead but will depend on what kind of development happens on the property. Fred thinks it would be ideal to access the riverfront trail rather than having to go through the State Park.

Fruita would like to have a bridge to Snooks Bottom but that is years down the road.

Alderman/Bennett property has been sold to MD Inc. (MA Construction) RFF member, Mark Gardner is talking with the new owners because he knows them and they are willing to work with Mark but doesn't want to be pressured. Pete said State is still interested but wants to just wait and see.

Doing survey of Gustafson property and State property at 29 Road because of the pinch point. Mr. Gustafson wants to move his property to the north and the Park wants to move to the west.

Redrock Lake is also going to topo survey. Catherine said she has been tapping into the County's topo maps and they are pretty high resolution.

Larry asked about change in alcohol law. Pete stated yes, full strength alcohol is now allowed in the park but still required to act responsibly. Larry then asked if the concerts will be serving hard liquor, Michele stated no, just beer and wine.

Palisade – Greg Mikolai was unable to attend.

Mesa County – County was unable to attend.

City of Fruita – Ture was unable to attend but emailed Michele and update which she read to the group.

Ture's email:

-We are working to financially finalize the Kokopelli Section project and close out grants. Costs are being allocated to appropriate grants and funding sources. But we may have some funds unspent and are looking into our options to use those remaining grant funds to build spurs off the Riverfront Trail.

-Question for the group. We have been getting some comments from trail users on installing signage to get people from the Monument View section to the Kokopelli Section. I would be open to the commission's suggestions on what this looks like and how to best sign that connection.

-Finally, the One Riverfront sign at the Colorado Welcome Center is up and it looks fabulous 😊

Duke asked if could have a map at the next meeting for the group to review so everyone knows where the boundaries are for each entity. Michele will contact Chris with the City's GIS Department for a map.

City of Grand Junction – Duke said most of what is going on is 2A and 2B (.05 for Fire and Police). He stated that if you give, you get.

New Business – RIO/Inspire – Traci explained what the program was and how it came about. She they were turned down for the GOCO grant they had applied for but that in November they received a \$490,000 for the Health Foundation. This brought their total funds to \$800,000, which would allow the project to move forward.

Libby talked about how the Riverside Educational Center (REC) played a big part in helping to reach the two areas of underserved kids and how they went about figuring out what the kids and parents wanted to help get the kids out in nature. In the Riverside neighborhood, it was closing of Riverside Park Drive to vehicles to make it safer to ride a bike through the area. Another was to give the kids a dirt bike park at the Dos Rios area (former Jarvis property) since they were not ready to ride to Lunch Loops. Libby has gotten the kids out on camping and rafting trips and built relationships with students to help get other kids involved.

Traci added that the Riverfront Foundation was the first to pledge money to the planning stage and for the building stage. She and Libby thanked the group for their support.

ORF members thanked Traci and Libby for the great update.

2019 Volunteering – Karen explained to ORF members about volunteering and how the board decides which educational events they wish to have a booth. She also reminded the group that not all events are a good fit for ORF to have a booth.

Cesar Chavez Celebration – March 30th at Las Colonias – 3pm-9pm. Group asked Michele about this event. She stated someone who thought ORF might want to have a booth sent this to her. The board voted no.

Earth Day & Southwest Arbor Fest –April 27th – Lincoln Park – Noon – 5pm – group asked if UTC or RiversEdge West (REW) were participating, she said UTC would not be and she would have to email Cara at REW. Board voted tentatively to have a booth. Laney, Fred, Laurie (tentative), Catherine (tentative) and Orilee (tentative). Michele will get application deadline out to the group for further consideration.

Karen added that board members will be responsible for getting the tent/table/materials box from Michele, set up and tear down and finally getting everything back to Michele after the event.

Colorado Riverfront Concert Series – currently do not have dates but hope to have by next meeting. This event is ORF's largest fundraiser so it's important for board members to volunteer.

Tour of the Moon – Friday, September 27th – 3pm-9pm at Two Rivers Convention Center and Saturday, September 28th – 6am – 9am. This is second largest fundraiser.

She will have a signup sheet at the next meeting and will send out reminders before each event for volunteers.

Old Business –

Round Up for the Riverfront – Ellen talked about the businesses she has contacted and that she's had a few no, some said yes but thinking about donation amount and some she's playing phone tag. She still needs contact names of business owners from board members. Rondo said that the 1% works great and that he'd be happy for Ellen to use him in talking with businesses.

Public Comment – Fred introduced Maggie Lipton. She commented she just wanted to learn more about ORF.

There was no further public comment.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.