

**COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333**

Riverfront Commission (RFC)

**Minutes
January 15, 2012²⁰¹³**

Called to Order:

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

Katie Steele	Cliff Sprinkle	Ken Henry	Stacy Beough
Claudette Konola	Brad Taylor	Frank Watt	Jason Bailey

Also present were Benita Philips with Western Colorado Congress of Mesa County, Bob Noble, candidate for City of Council, Pete Firmin with Parks and Wildlife, Bennett Boeschstein, Grand Junction City Council, Al Pfister, Partner Coordinator, Bennett Price, Palisade Trustee, Ben Blom with Urban Trails Committee and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval – Claudette/Jason. Motion passed.

Announcements – Walking/Biking Summit on March 8th at Two Rivers Convention Center. Stacy stated that the following week the Tamarisk Coalition will be having their River Restoration Conference on Monday, March 11th through Friday, March 15th at Colorado Mesa University.

Retreat is Saturday, April 6th at the new Palisade Fire Station. Retreat will be just the Riverfront Commission, Riverfront Foundation and Urban Trails Committee. Ken asked if Palisade and Fruita should be invited. Katie and Brad feel it's really important for the Riverfront to get act together and come up with the strategic plan and then present to partners.

Social to follow that evening – time and location TBD.

Outdoor Heritage Days on April 28th in Palisade Riverbend Park. Michele will be out of town so will need someone to be in charge that day. Brad and Stacy volunteered.

Tour of the Moon – the Riverfront Commission and Foundation drafted a letter to the Colorado National Monument to encourage approval of the permit for the 2013 Tour of the Moon. Brad added info about Rocky Mountain Events that puts on the Elephant Ride, the Cooper Triangle and the Courage Ride. Ken suggested contacting Senator Udall's office and Ken Salazar to ask for support of the Tour of the Moon.

New Business –

History flier – The RFC would like to have a history flier available at the booth we will be having at the trail summit and for another project, The PR/Media group is looking into moving forward on getting one done.

Katie mentioned that there will be five openings for new members in June so if you know of anyone that would be a good candidate, please have them apply.

Great Outdoors Grant Writing Seminar – Katie attended the seminar last Friday. She found it to be very interesting and the GOCO staff talked one of the letters of support from the Lincoln Park application.

Palisade Fire Station Open house – It was a huge success, over 500 people attended. Was much needed and a very big deal for Town.

Catherine Robertson's retirement party is on Friday. Katie will be attending and presenting her with a Riverfront rock.

There was further new business.

Old Business –

Media coverage for the emergency markers was a huge success and great tie in with the 911 call center.

Strategic Planning – Brad talked about a preliminary draft for the strategic plan with long term and short term goals for the Riverfront, the Foundation and Urban Trails. He asked everyone to start thinking about where the group has been in the past 25 years and where it's going. Would like to draft an organizational chart and start working on branding. Next step would be to start work on a mission statement.

Safety and Signage – The RFC raised over \$10,000 at the Tour of the Moon and Katie will be requesting the funds back from the RFF to use for safety and signage issues that Frank has notated. Still would like to do survey and believes the subcommittees need to part of the strategic plan. Once the weather warms up, would like to go out and do more riding along the trails to see how to make them safer.

Government Relations – Since Brian has moved away Jason and Katie will be having coffee and then set up a meeting with the new county commissioners. Brad said he was concerned about something he read in the paper recently that RFC no longer has an appointed member attend RFC meetings. Concerned about point of contact.

History – Ken said they had two interviews set up in December but they were canceled. Still continuing to schedule interviews.

Media Relations/Outreach – Group met on Monday and discussed updating website and working on a downloadable map that is user friendly. Katie asked if the Partners have a problem with the RFC using some of the partner coordinator's leftover funds to have Cobb & Associates help with the update. Brad clarified Katie's request to make sure that there aren't problems with using funds for something different than originally requested.

Bennett said that the video can be updated and has spoken with Rocky Mountain PBS.

Comments made about needing more pictures and interactive maps.

Will be taking board members photos at the retreat and Jason will be working on bios.

Updates:

Mesa County – Donna and Greg were unable to attend so Katie gave a brief update.

City of Grand Junction/Brady Trucking – Bennett said that Las Colonias is now a line item on the budget. The brewery will be really good for the park. Benita showed map that shows Las Colonias has been in the planning stages for 35 years. The City of Grand Junction isn't willing to commit to purchasing the property or trade. Mr. Brady wants to sell or trade the property and his vice president is willing to consider not moving forward with further work if some good faith money can be set aside until enough money is raised to purchase the property. Bennett said it will be on the ballot to see if public wants the property to be zoned industrial. If the public does, then Mr. Brady is able to do whatever he wants with the property. If the public doesn't want it then it goes back to City Council to determine the zoning. The wording to go on the ballot is ready and the City Council will vote on putting it on the ballot tomorrow night and then it will be on the ballot in April.

City of Fruita – Bob Fuller was unable to attend.

Town of Palisade – Frank said work has been begun on trail and hope to have completed by end of February depending on weather. Begun preliminary work on the 1000 feet of bank that went into the river during the big event of 2011.

Parks and Wildlife – Nothing new that hasn't already been discussed.

KAFM – Bennett needs a guest this month. Katie asked if she could come in February. Stacy said the Tamarisk Coalition may be interested.

Get Kids Outdoors – Bennett said that the school district has reported that the entire funds have been used. Since Leila has left, Bennett needs someone to help with funding for next year. Stacy and Claudette volunteered.

Committee Reports:

UTC – Had a presentation by Traci with the City of Grand Junction on Matchett Park.

Partners – Al had nothing to report.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.