

Linn County Trails Association

Board Meeting

Monday June 13th, 2016

The monthly meeting of the Linn County Trail Association's Board of Directors was held on June 13th , 2016 at the Cedar Rapids Water Administration Building. . A quorum was present. Those who attended the meeting were the following:

LCTA Board Members:

Paul Fiegen (President) Tom Peffer (Vice President) Keith Sutherland Brad Mullin (Secretary) Sarah Barber Dean Barnum Vicky Evans Leland Freie John Hager Diane Handler Steve Hershner Kevin Kirchner Kyle Lundberg Gary Palmer Larry Scott Kirschen Seah John Wauer Kesha Billings Dan Biechler Randy Burke Dennis Goemaat

Guests:

Jim Koss Phillip Platz

Call to Order:

President, Paul Fiegen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes for the May board meeting were distributed electronically. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Keith Sutherland reported current assets of \$118,634. The motion to approve the report passed unanimously.

Presentation: Jim Kaas, Cedar Valley Nature Trail Plaque:

Jim Kaas of Iowa Fluid Power presented the LCTA with an engraved plaque with the major donors to 2015 Pave the Cedar Valley Nature Trail Capital Campaign. The plaque will hang in the Railroad Depot in Center Point. The plaque was donated to the LCTA by the Koss family.

Reports for Standing Committees:

A. Public Awareness and Support (Paul Fiegen)

1. **Ride Walk Play Event:** Gary Palmer informed the group of interest to conduct the event again this year. The event may be part of the Freedom Festival with a date of Thursday, June 23 from 5-8pm. LCTA will provide the insurance coverage for the event. Contact Gary if interested in volunteering.
2. **LCTA/HBA Joint Rides:** Saturday, May 21st , 8:30 am. Ride began at Sokol Park. There were 18 participants.
3. **Metro Area Trails Guide:** There is a need for more individuals to distribute maps in map boxes along the trail. The board discussed a few improvements for next year's map.
4. **Mayors' Bike Ride:** The ride is Monday, September 5th. There is a need for volunteers.

B. Trail Development (Steve Hershner):

1. **Linn County Conservation Department:** Randy Burke reported:

A. Hoover Trail- Ely City Hall to Johnson County Line at Seven Sisters Rd:

The County has received an MPO grant for \$760,000 to construct this final section of trail in Linn County. This section of trail is one-mile long. The north half of the trail is in Ely City Limits, and the 20% grant match is the responsibility of the City of Ely. The south half is the Conservation Board's (LCCB), responsibility. The LCCB has an agreement with the Secondary Road Department to add or extend culverts and rough grade the south half of the trail at the same time and with the same contractor that is working on Ely Rd. Anderson-Bogert Engineers has completed the plans for the south half of the trail and are still finalizing the exact alignment and configuration for the north half. The City of Ely is working to complete an agreement with the LCCB for the work on the north half. Anderson-Bogert will complete a concept statement and a preliminary plan set for Iowa Department of Transportation review. A bid letting for grading the north half and paving the entire one mile will be set for a January/February timeline.

B. Cedar Valley Nature Trail Paving Schultz Road to Ash Lane:

This project is 3.5 miles of grading, ditching and paving. The estimated cost is \$1.2 million. The Conservation Board has received a \$600,000 State Recreational Trails Grant from the Iowa Department of Transportation for the project. The trail will be paved with asphalt from Schultz Road to Iowa Street on the south edge of Center Point. The remainder of the trail through Center Point will be concrete. All required trail clearing has been completed. Work is to commence on July 18th. The trail will close for the paving project.

C. Red Cedar Mountain Bike Trail: - Squaw Creek County Park

This project involves the professional construction of a 1.5-2 mile section of single track Mountain bike trail at Squaw Creek Park. The County is working with the Linn Area Mountain Bike Association (LAMBA) on this project, and has received a \$55,000 State Recreational Trails Grant. A bid letting will occur on June 23rd, with construction anticipated for late fall.

D. West Blue Creek Bridge Replacement Cedar Valley Nature Trail:

This project involves the replacement of a 270' long bridge approximately half a mile east of Interstate 380. This bridge is in extremely poor condition. Anderson-Bogert is working on the project with a letting anticipated for late summer and construction to begin in the fall and construction to begin in the fall and continue through the winter with completion next spring, (2017). The preliminary estimate is \$750,000. The search for funding sources for the East Blue Creek Bridge replacement on the Cedar Valley Nature Trail is still underway. Earliest time frame is 2018-2019.

2. Marion:

- a. **Donnelly Park Bridge:** A new bridge within Donnelly Park is complete and open for use.
- b. **Marion Hotel/Motel Grant:** Kesha has applied for grant for a fix-it station in City Square Park and for portable bike racks.
- c. **Safe Routes to School Plan:** The city of Marion has adopted a Safe Routes to School Plan.
- d. **The Marion Uptown Markets is Saturday, July 9th.** There will be a short ride at the conclusion of the Market.

3. CMPO: The board looked at the Strava Maps program. Program tracks an individuals runs, rides and cross-training. They can upload their activities from your Garmin, Android or iPhone and Strava will automatically log all your workouts. Run or ride a segment (specific section of road or trail) and Strava can

compare their effort against past efforts, as well as other athletes who've run or ridden the same segment. The company has a data set available for purchase.

B.Trail Operations and Safety :

1. Cedar Rapids Parks and Recreation Meeting: A few of the board members met with Daniel Gibbons about some maintenance issues along the area trails. The Department has several projects plan and a list of further projects for the future.

New Business:

1. **Downtown Farmers Market:** Brad Mullin circulated sign-up sheets for the July 2nd, 16th and August 6th Downtown Farmers Market and the July 9th Marion Uptown Farmers Market.
2. **LCTA Insurance:** The board discuss making changes to the current insurance policy adding special events. In addition, discussed obtaining Directors and Officers Insurance.
3. **Go Cedar Rapids: International Trails Symposium:** Go Cedar Rapids contacted LCTA about attending a meeting about Cedar Rapids hosting the International Trails Symposium in the future. The meeting in June 30th at 8:30 am. The meeting place is NewBo city market.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm



Linn County Trails Association **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

LCTA Board Meetings

LCTA Board Meeting
Monday, August 8th, 6:00pm
Location: Cedar Rapids Water Administration Building
1111 Shaver Rd. NE.