



Linn County Trails Association Board Meeting Monday April 10th, 2017



The monthly meeting of the Linn County Trail Association’s Board of Directors was held on April 10th, 2017 at the Cedar Rapids Water Administration Building. A quorum was present. Those who attended the meeting were the following:

Attendance:

Board Member	√
Sarah Barber	X
Dean Barnum	x
John Ernst	
Vicky Evans	X
Paul Fiegen (Past-President)	X
Leland Freie	x
John Hager	x
Diane Handler	
<u>Steve Hershner</u>	X
Kevin Kirchner (Vice-President)	X
Kyle Lundberg	
Ron McGraw	x
Dick Mundy	X
Brad Mullin (Secretary)	X
Gary Palmer	
Phillip Platz	X
Tom Peffer (President)	x
Larry Scott	
Kirschen Seah	x
Rich Smith	X
Keith Sutherland (Treasurer)	
John Wauer	x
Dick Woodward	x

<u>Advisory Board Members</u>	
Ron Griffith (CR Engineering Dept)	
Daniel Gibbins (CR Parks and Rec. Dept.)	
Dan Biechler (Linn County Conservation)	x
Randy Burke (Linn County Conservation)	
Dennis Goemaat (Linn County Conservation)	x
Kesha Billings (City of Marion)	x
Brandon Whyte (Multimodal Transportation Planner, Corridor MPO Rep.)	x
Barry McQuiston (LAMBA Rep)	
Ken Barker (LAMBA)	
Ed Holstrom (Trail Map Distribution)	

Guests: Jon Bogert, Megan Moffitt, Rob Davis, Dale Jackson

Call to Order:

President, Tom Peffer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes for the March board meeting were distributed electronically. The minutes were approved unanimously with the correction.

Treasurer’s Report:

Keith Sutherland reported current assets of \$80,723.

Presentation: Jon Bogert, Megan Moffit and Rob Davis: Update on Flood Structures

The Flood Control System will be designed to convey the same water volume as the flood of 2008, reducing flood risk through the heart of Cedar Rapids on both the west and east sides of the river. The system will include a combination of floodwalls, levees and gates, and incorporate aesthetic elements that reflect our community's culture, history, and vision. City Council formally adopted the Cedar River Flood Control System Master Plan on June 23, 2015. The plan was modified in September 2016. The 7.5 miles of flood protection may take up to 20 years to complete. Some of the highlights are:

1. Sinclair Levee

- Construction: 2016 – End of 2017
- Just under half a mile from the African-American Museum to Alliant Substation
- 13 feet tall on average
- Provides immediate protection to the 40 year flood, approximately 20-foot river crest
- Includes a 12' wide concrete bike/pedestrian trail on the top of levee

2. Czech Village Utility Relocations / Levee

- Utility Relocations: Underway, will last duration of 2017. A temporary soft surface trail was created in early April 2016. Trail usage will be diverted to C St. to 21st Street SW to trail near the Landfill entrance.
- Levee Construction 2018 or 2019
- Levee will be approximately half a mile long
- Will provide immediate protection of a river surge up to 19.5 feet

3. 8th Avenue Bridge Replacement

Raising/replacing the 80-year-old 8th Avenue Bridge will preserve a heavily travelled connection between both sides of the river in the case of significant flood events. Goals of the project include:

- Provide an additional emergency route across the river to improve flood fighting and other emergency response
- Maintain access to hospitals, the police department, and I-380 interchange
- Reduce congestion and improve safety on the interstate during a flood
- Save money by eliminating the need to build flood protection around an existing bridge, including closure gates
- Separated bicycle and pedestrian accommodations as part of the bridge design.
- Provide an east- west trail connection from the McGrath Amphitheater and the NewBo District.

4. Cedar Lake Basin

- Construction of a new earthen levee.
- The new levee would occupy area where the Cedar Valley Nature Trail is located. The trail would be located atop the new levee.

Old Business:

1. **United Way Day of Caring, May 11th**: Board discussed the possibility of holding several trail-clean-up sites on area trails. Paul Fiegen and Tom Peffer agreed to lead teams of volunteers. The Board discussed which area needed the most attention
2. **Better Business Bureau: Kids Festival**: Saturday May 6th at the Cedar Rapids Public Library. Anyone interested in representing the LCTA, please contact Tom.
3. **Cedar Rapids Public Library Presentation**: Paul has agreed to give a presentation on June 15th,
4. **Proposed By-Law Amedment**:
Paul Fiegen read an email sent to the board regarding a change in the LCTA by-laws:

“ Pursuant to Article X – Amendments to Bylaws, Section 10.1. Amendments, notice is hereby given that the following proposed Amendment to the Bylaws will be submitted for consideration at the April 10 Board meeting:

Section 3.15. Board of Director Requirements. Each member of the board of directors shall agree to the following minimum requirements:

- 1) Attend a substantial majority of monthly Board meetings,
- 2) Actively participate in one, or more, Standing Committees,
- 3) Support, as necessary and as able, the other Standing Committees,
- 4) Be a member of LCTA by contributing at least the minimal amount, and
- 5) Contribute financially to any capital campaign, as you are able to. “

John Wauer moved for adoption of the by-law change. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Bike to Work Week:

The Board went over some of the events regarding upcoming Bike to Work week. Brandon Whyte asked the LCTA at least one volunteer for each of the Bike Pit Stops. Paul Fiegen collected the names of those who volunteered.

MONDAY, MAY 15

Mayor's Bike Ride and Proclamation
7:00 a.m.
Red's Public House

TUESDAY, MAY 16

Bike Pit Stops - free goodies and material
7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Locations: NewBo Market, 1st Avenue at the trail (across from the Double Tree), and Rockwell Collins (corner of F Ave and Collins Rd)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

Bike to Lunch with the Mayor
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Meet at City Hall and bike to Sag Wagon

Ride of Silence

6:00 p.m.

Meet at Marion Square, 7th Avenue in Marion

THURSDAY, MAY 18

Bike Pit Stops -- free goodies and material

7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Locations: NewBo Market, 1st Avenue at the trail (across from the Double Tree), and Rockwell Collins (corner of F Ave and Collins Rd)

Meet Me at the Market

6:00 p.m.

Bike ride to Ely

Meet at NewBo City Market

FRIDAY, MAY 19

Handlebar Happy Hour/Wrap-up Party

6:00 p.m.

Committee Reports:

1. Trail Advocacy Committee:

A. Linn County Conservation: Dan Biechler gave the following report on trail related projects:

1. West Blue Creek Bridge:

Work is progressing well. With the deck completed, the next step is the construction of approaches to the bridge. A completion of the project may occur in June 2017

2. Trail Paving, Cedar Valley Trail, Schultz Rd. to Ash Lane:

The asphalt section of the trail was completed in late fall 2016. This section will require some additional grading and final seeding in the ditch line. The County met with the contractor and initial paving has commenced on the section from the south edge of Center Point to the North side of town. Work is scheduled to be completed by June 11th.

3. Ely Trail: IDOT has set the project to be let on May 16th for the 1 mile section of trail. Construction is scheduled for the summer season, ideally Fall 2017 completion.

4. East Blue Creek:

The County has a project agreement with IDOT for the East Blue Creek, and design work has begun. Their goal would be to replace it next fall/winter.

5. Grant Wood Trail:

They have requested a design proposal to start the planning process for the trail extension from Hwy. 13 to Oxley Rd. The County has proposed a "soft-surfacing" project for the trail. The County has trails grant funding of \$220,000 to assist with this project. Soft-surfacing of the trail may occur in late 2017 into 2018. The County will build a new parking area east of Creekside Rd., just off of Secrist Rd. this year.

B. City of Marion: Kesha reported that City of Marion has acquired all the easements for the Grant Wood Trail Extension from Highway 13 to 35th St. The Army Corps of Engineers has expressed an issue with the proposed wetland mitigation that may delay the project until 2018 for completion.

C. Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization: Brandon reported the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee recommended the following projects for funding:

1. **Edgewood Rd Trail: O Ave NW to Ellis Blvd. NW:** Phase II of the overall project includes 1.2 miles of trail pavement plus traffic signal modifications. This completes the trail as the grading work is already accomplished
2. **Edgewood Rd. Trail: From Ellis Rd. NW to Glass Rd. NE:** Construction of a new paved trail along Edgewood Road. This project is .7 miles long. The trail will be paved 10' wide adjacent to Edgewood Road. The trail will cross the Cedar River and the existing sidewalk on the bridge will be extended to 8' wide
3. **CEMAR Trail: Additional Funding:** Additional funding to correct a discrepancy from 2013.
4. **Hwy 100 Trail - Cedar River: Crossing Phase A:** This trail will create a loop around the northwest quadrant of Cedar Rapids. There generally follows along Hwy 100. The trail will connect the Cherokee Trail, Morgan Creek Park, Cherry Hill Park, Downtown Cedar Rapids, and the Cedar Valley Nature Trail. This is Phase A (1.0 miles) from Xavier High School to the Rock Island Preserve

2. Trails Operations and Safety Committee: Dick Mundy

- A. The access to the Cedar Valley Nature Trail near A Street entrance to the Landfill was improved

3. Outreach and Public Awareness Committee: Paul Fiegen and Phillip Platz:

Philip outlined a number of Membership/Fundraising/Outreach committee-related items discussed at a March Meeting including:

- Focus more fundraising efforts on larger local businesses who have records of charitable giving but that LCTA may not have a strong history of asking for financial contributions
- Use events as opportunities for public outreach and media engagement. We also discussed hosting a ribbon cutting/bike ride to celebrate the completion of the CVNT-north paving through Center Point when it is finished this summer.
- In addition to membership fundraising via the newsletter, we talked about doing an annual capital campaign in the October/November "giving season," focused on big asks like paving the Grant Wood Trail, or acquiring land for the Lincoln/Interurban Trail.
- The group has determined that there needs to be larger discussion about what it means to be an LCTA member and whether a "membership model" best suits our needs or what other options there may be. Our group will meet again to discuss this and prepare a proposal for the board.

Much of our discussion centered on touch points — in marketing, you need to connect with as many people as you can, in as many formats as those people are using.

New Business:

1. Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization Bike Ride:

The 4th Annual Corridor MPO bike ride is a 26 mile ride with short informational stops at:

- The new Mount Mercy Athletic Complex to see the new portions of the CeMar Trail
 - Hiawatha's new RRFB trail safety devices
 - The new South Troy Park Trail in Robins
 - Lunch at Lebowski's
- The future Highway 100 Trail in the Rock Island Preserve

- And finally the new Sinclair Levee Trail

The May 13th ride will start at 9:30 AM from NewBo City Market and finish roughly around 2:30 PM. Most of the ride will be on trails with small sections on road. The ride is suitable for all ages. Please RSVP: <http://mpobikeride2017.eventbrite.com>

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm



Linn County Trails Association CALENDAR OF EVENTS



LCTA Board Meetings

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