



# Linn County Trails Association Board Meeting Monday June 12th, 2017



The monthly meeting of the Linn County Trail Association’s Board of Directors was held on June 12th, 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	x
Vicky Evans	X
<b>Paul Fiegen</b> (Past-President)	X
Leland Freie	x
John Hager	
Diane Handler	
Steve Hershner	
<b>Kevin Kirchner</b> (Vice-President)	X
Kyle Lundberg	x
Ron McGraw	
Dick Mundy	
<b>Brad Mullin</b> (Secretary)	X
Gary Palmer	x
Phillip Platz	X
<b>Tom Peffer</b> (President)	x
Larry Scott	x
Kirschen Seah	x
Rich Smith	X
<b>Keith Sutherland</b> (Treasurer)	x
John Wauer	x
Dick Woodward	

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

**Guests:** Dale Jackson, Nicole Roth

**Call to Order:**

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

**Approval of the Minutes:**

The minutes for the May board meeting were distributed electronically. There was one correction Dick Woodward was in attendance. The corrected minutes were approved unanimously with the correction.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Keith Sutherland reported current assets of \$89,247. In addition, Keith spoke about two items:

1. Memorials: The Board discussed the need for acknowledgement of memorial contributions in upcoming newsletters and the closure of some memorial fund accounts.
2. Fund Transfers From Non-Active Accounts: Keith will contact Diane Handler ( RX4 Fitness) and Mike Wilson (LCTA IT Improvement Fund) about re-appropriation of the funds from these accounts to the Trail Development fund along with the elimination of these designated funding accounts.

### **Phillip Platz: LCTA Fall Capital Campaign**

Phillip Platz initiated a discussion on future LCTA capital campaigns. With an active listening audience, Philip asked for feedback from the Board in regards to “Is a fall/spring capital campaign in our interest?” and “Which trail projects could be viable options for a fall/spring capital campaign?”

After discussion, Phillip moved that the LCTA should conduct an annual Spring membership drive beginning in Spring 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

Philip also moved that the LCTA conduct an annual fall capital campaign, beginning Fall 2017, with the establishment of a committee to determine a trail project. The motion passed unanimously. Phillip agreed to distribute future meeting dates and locations to the Board. Any interested committee participants should contact Phillip.

In addition, the Board discussed several possible projects for a Fall capital campaign, including:

1. Federally-funded projects which require a “match” funding from jurisdictions.
  - A. Linn County: Grant Wood Trail “Resurfacing Project”: Randy Burke reported that the project is in the initial design phase and has received \$220,000 in federal funding. The County is seeking a 2017 State Recreational Grant for the project. The project includes the paving of the Grant Wood Trail from the Highway 13 Underpass to Waldo’s Rock Park. The remaining trail to Oxley Rd. would be resurfaced with a gravel base suitable for asphalt base at a later date.
  - B. Linn County: East Blue Greek Bridge: The replacement of the bridge has received a 2016 State Recreational Trails Grant for \$250,000. The grant requires a match of \$120,000 to \$140,000. The project is scheduled for bidding in late summer/early fall 2017.
2. Other possible projects:
  - A. Lincoln Trail: Connecting Cedar Rapids to Mt. Vernon, IA. Not funded.
  - B. Trail safety improvements and amenities
  - C. The committee will check with CMPO’s Brandon Whyte about other possible opportunities.

### **Trails Connections Summer Newsletter:**

Phillip circulated an email with the following information prior to the meeting:

1. All content for the newsletter is due June 19<sup>th</sup>.
2. Newsletter Theme: what's happening now/this summer & ways to plug in to LCTA, Mayors’ Bike Ride:

- Funding/Membership Committee: (200–400 words) Theme-specific/season- specific monetary ask.
- Advocacy Committee: (~400 words) Topical Advocacy Column (new ways to get on the trails, how to get involved and support trail usage in the community and politically, etc, ~400 words)
- Outreach Committee: (~400 words) column on Mayor's Bike Ride Preview & other summer events

- Operations/Safety Committee: (200 words/as applicable) Any important trail closures/detours updates
- Operations/Safety Committee: (~400 words) Column on Trail Safety & Education/how to navigate and use the trails
- LCTA President (~200 words) President's message

### 3. Other Deadlines:

- July 10 mailing list pulled date (Diane)
- July 17 sent to printer date (Brad)
- July 24 dropped in mail date (Printer)

## **Presentation: Ron Griffith: City of Cedar Rapids Projects:**

### **2017 City of Cedar Rapids Projects: Shoulders and/or Bike Lanes**

1. C AVE NE: Widening of the road from 40<sup>th</sup> St. NE to Collin Rd. NE will feature bike lanes in each direction and sidewalks on each side.
2. Memorial Drive SE: New construction from Bever Ave. SE to Mt. Vernon Rd. SE will consist of sharrows and parking limited to one side of the street.
3. 1<sup>st</sup> Street West: The road will reduce to three lanes with the addition of parking and bicycle lanes from 1<sup>st</sup> Ave West to 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. West.
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. SE: Reduction of the road to one lane in each direction, from 1<sup>st</sup> Street East to 8<sup>th</sup> Street East, will feature bike lanes in each direction and the inclusion of "bump-outs"
5. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. West: A second phase of a project will included more painting from 1<sup>st</sup> St. West to 6<sup>th</sup> St West. The project will feature new "islands" and "drop lanes."
6. Seminole Valley Rd. Sections of Seminole Valley Road from 42nd Street to Fords Crossing/Seminole Valley Park will include bicycle facilities (paved shoulders).
7. 30<sup>th</sup> St. Dr. Pavement rehabilitation from 30th St Dr. from 1st Ave to Tama St. with markings.

### **2018 City of Cedar Rapids Projects:**

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. Johnson Ave. NW: Creation of bike lanes from Edgewood Rd. to 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. West along with road project.
3. O Ave. NW: First phase from Ellis Blvd. to 21<sup>st</sup> St.: Creation of bicycle facilities along with road construction.
4. H Ave. NE: Bicycle facilities from Daniels Park to F Ave. NE with a realignment of the road at 16<sup>th</sup> St. NE.

### **City of Cedar Rapids Trail Projects (Not Funded, 3 to 5 years out)**

1. Cherokee Trail
2. Lindale Trail Extension
3. CEMAR Trail Phase III and Phase IV
4. Edgewood Trail: Ellis Blvd. to Blairsferry Rd.
5. Trailridge Trail connection from Sac and Fox Trail to East Post Rd.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **1. Trail Advocacy Committee:**

**A. Linn County Conservation:** Randy Burke 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 will occur in the next couple of weeks.

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 pavement is completed to Ash Lane. Tiling and ditch work remain. The trail will need a gilsonite sealer binder (GSB) coating that will result in closure for a couple of days. A kiosk is planned for construction at the Center Point Depot along with the installation of bike racks and a Fix-It station. Phillip Platz agreed to contact the County about establishing a date for a ribbon cutting ceremony and/or activities.

3. Ely Trail: The project was awarded to a contractor. Construction is scheduled to begin July 4<sup>th</sup> and take 75 working days to complete. Seeding would occur next year.

4. East Blue Creek:

The County has a project agreement with IDOT for the East Blue Creek, and design work has begun. The letting is scheduled for August 2017. Their goal would be to replace this winter.

5. Red Cedar Trail:

The County hired a professional trail builder out of Austin, Texas. The construction of 2 to 2.5 mile of new singletrack mountain bike trail is near completion with some just boardwalk construction left.

**C. Linn Area Mountain Bike Association (Nicole Roth):**

1. Landfill Development: The group is working with the Solid Waste Agency to develop mountain bike trails on the site of the closed landfill.

2. Beverly Fat Tire Frenzy: LAMBA held an IMBCS sanctioned race on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Beverly Park.

3. Anglers Eyelet Loop: LAMBA has completed a short loop off the current singletrack along the Sac and Fox Trail. The new loop is referred as Anglers Eyelet Loop.

**D. Trails Operations and Safety Committee: Dick Mundy**

1. Trail Maintenance Meeting: Dick will meet with the Cedar Rapids Parks and Recreation Department on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Dick would like any suggestions in regards to safety issues and needed improvements along Cedar Rapids trails.

**Old Business:**

1. United Way Day of Caring: On May 11<sup>th</sup>, two teams collected 40 bags of trash along the Cedar Valley Nature Trail. Tom Peffer thanked all those who volunteered.

2. Bike to Work Week: Several LCTA members volunteered for activities and were recognized. Tom acknowledged Kevin Kirchner for his contribution to City of Cedar Rapids Bike Lane E-Newsletter.

3. National Trails Day (Brad Mullin):

Cedar Rapids Mayor, Ron Corbett presented LCTA members, Dean Barnum, Steve Hershner and Kevin Kirchner, with an official National Trails Day proclamation at the Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> City Council Meeting. National Trails Day was Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Several LCTA volunteers handed a donated items at the Cedar Rapids Downtown Farmers Market Bike Corral. Brad acknowledged Vicky Evans for soliciting donations from Sykora Bakery, Blue Strawberry, Quaker Oats and Fareway Food Stores. The initial Downtown Farmer's Market had an estimated 20,000 people attend. The bike corral had an estimated 123 users. The group collected 49 new email addresses and over \$100 in donations. Brad expressed thanks

to LCTA volunteers John Wauer, Leland Freie, Kyle Lundberg, Kevin Kirchner, Paul Fiegen, Larry Scott, Dean Barnum and Tom Peffer for their help.

4. June 8<sup>th</sup> Meet Me At The Market: Northtowne Cyclery and Fitness sponsored the event. John Wauer and Brad Mullin staffed an informational booth from 5pm to 8pm.

5. Health Solutions 8K Race/ Fifth Seasons 5K Expo: The event will have an expo and packet pick-up on July 3<sup>rd</sup> at the DoubleTree Convention Complex. Corridor Running invited the LCTA to have a table at the expo. Paul Fiegen agreed to staff the event.

6. Marion Uptown Market: Brad Mullin and Vicky Evans staffed an informational booth and parked 12 bicycles. They collected 18 new e-mail signups. The next Uptown Market is July 8<sup>th</sup>.

7. Downtown Cedar Rapids Farmers Markets: Brad Mullin circulated sign-up sheets for the June 17<sup>th</sup>, July 1<sup>st</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup> and August 5<sup>th</sup> Markets.

8. "Northtowne Gives" Promotion: Northtowne Fitness and Cyclery will donate a small portion of any purchase back to the LCTA if a customer uses the password "LCTA2017" at the register.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm



## Linn County Trails Association CALENDAR OF EVENTS



### LCTA Board Meetings

LCTA Board Meeting  
Monday, July 10th, 6:00pm  
Location: Cedar Rapids Water Administration Building  
1111 Shaver Rd. NE.