

# Linn County Trails Association

## Board Meeting

### Monday September 12, 2011

The monthly meeting of the Linn County Trail Association's Board of Directors was held on Monday September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the People's Church. A quorum was not present. Those who attended the meeting were the following:

#### **LCTA Board Members:**

John Wauer (President) Steve Hershner (Vice President) Brad Mullin (Secretary) Vicky Evans  
Jim Healy Lindsay Dick Pat Healy Kari Lammer Tom Peffer Mike Wilson Dick Mundy Leland Freie  
Randy Burke Kesha Billings Daniel Gibbins Adam Lindelaub

#### **Guests:**

Eric Penne David Zagarle

#### **Call to Order:**

John Wauer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

#### **Presentation: David Zagarle: Adventure Iowa**

David Zaragle is with Adventure Iowa. Adventure Iowa is Iowa based company promoting outdoor activities including adventure racing, urban challenges, orienteering and corporate team building. The group's mission is keeping people active and getting them outdoors. Adventure Iowa is conducting the Stone City Adventure Race on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The six hour multi-discipline race involves canoeing, mountain biking, orienteering, running and team challenges. The event will consist of teams of 2, 3 or 4 persons same gender or coed. For gear list, registration, prizes and directions go to: [www.adventureiowa.com](http://www.adventureiowa.com).

The Adventure Iowa is also affiliated with the Touch the Earth: Recreation and Education Program of the Recreational Services of the University of Iowa ([www.recsrv.uiowa.edu](http://www.recsrv.uiowa.edu)). The program offers adventure trips, educational programs and clinics, high adventure challenge course and outdoor equipment rental.

#### **Approval of the Minutes:**

The minutes for the August meeting were distributed electronically. The minutes were approved unanimously

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

In Keith Sutherland's absence, John Wauer reported current assets of \$68,769.

#### **Old Business:**

##### **A.Canadian National Railroad Property :**

The railroad has returned a signed copy of the sales contract. HR Green will begin the Phase Environmental Assessment. The closing of the deal may occur mid-December.

**B.Cedar Rapids Comprehensive Trails Plan:** The Infrastructure Committee is scheduled to review the Comprehensive Trails Plan in September. The final draft may be presented before the City Council in October.

**C. New Meeting Location:** The next meeting will take place at the United Way of East Central Iowa, 317 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. The meeting location is on the second floor.

**D. Hotel/Motel Tax Application:** Ron McGraw, Mike Wilson and Jim Healy are working on a grant for the upcoming cycle. Funding for a kiosk at Greene Square Park is the possible request. Initial cost estimates range from \$5,000-\$10,000 dollars. The deadline for the application is October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Reports for Standing Committees:**

**A. Public Awareness and Support (Kari Lammer):**

**1. 2011 Mayors' Ride** :The ride was Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Ten located elected officials participated. The ride had just over 300 registered riders. 47 participants were under the age of 18, about 20% of the total riders. Geographic breakdown was as follows:

Cedar Rapids -227 (75%)

Marion- 40 (13%)

Hiawatha -9 (3 %)

Robins -7 (2%)

Swisher- 6 (2%)

Other- 14 (5%)

*Thank you to all those who volunteered for the ride.*

**2. Downtown Farmer's Market:** Volunteers are needed for the Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> market for the BAC bicycle corral and to distribute maps. The Linn County Safety Kids Coalition will be distributing 200 free bicycle helmets.

**3. Moving-Planet.org Bike Ride:** The group advocates the reduction of fossil fuel usage. The ride will commence at 1pm at Tait Cummins Park on Saturday, September 24, 2011. For further details visit: [moving-planet.org](http://moving-planet.org).

**4. Trail Supporter Campaign.**

Linn County Trails Association is inviting trail users to get more involved with LCTA by becoming a Trail Supporter. The campaign emphasizes the multiple ways to become a trail supporter, and more importantly, many reasons why.

**B. Trail Development (Steve Hershner):**

**1. Daniel Gibbins: Cedar Rapids Park and Recreation Department Superintendent:**

Daniel Gibbins discussed ongoing trail maintenance on Cedar Rapids' trails. With the FY13 budget coming up, the parks and recreation department is planning future projects. Installation of fencing, conversion of grass strips to gravel, surface maintenance, signage and vegetation management are possible projects. A reduction of funding and staff has hindered projects over the last two years. An Adopt-A-Trail program was discussed to assist the department with some of the projects and routine trail maintenance. The collection of prairie plant seeds, in cooperation with the Indian Creek Nature Center, was discussed as a potential collaborative project with the LCTA in October 2011.

**2. Robins: South Troy Park:**

The city of Robins is planning the development of a 3,400 ft trail, including one bridge, connecting the Cedar Valley Nature Trail and the South Troy City Park. The city has carry-over funds from other projects and construction would occur in 2013. On behalf of the MPO, Adam asked for a letter of support of the project.

**3. CEMAR Trail:** An upcoming deadline for MPO programming will lead to the proposed allocation of funds for the entire length of the CEMAR trail. The MPO has designated the CEMAR trail as a high priority for funding. The funding is tentative and may be directed to other projects if they are more immediate.

**4. Mary Lundy Memorial Bridge/ Pinicon Ridge Park:** Construction has begun on the bridge. Completion could be early in December. A trail connecting the Pinicon Ridge Park and Central City has started construction with some vegetation clearing; bids came in \$40,000 under estimate.

## **5. Kesha Billings: City of Marion:**

Kesha reported the following progress in Marion:

1. Krumboltz trail/CEMAR: Preliminary work has begun on the section from Thomas Park to the Highway 100. The project should be bid shortly.
2. Marion Railroad Trail: In September, the Marion City Council has approved the project constructing a section of the trail from east of Lindale Ave down to the Boyson Trail. This project may be bid concurrently with the Krumboltz/CEMAR project.
3. Boyson Road Trail: An 8 foot wide sidewalk is included in the reconstruction of Boyson Rd. connecting new housing developments with the Boyson Trail north parking lot/trailhead.

## **C. Government Support:**

1. CR Bicycle Advisory Committee: As part of the Healthy Linn Care Network Grant, the city plans trail map insertions in upcoming city utility bills (using the LCTA map). A potential of 50,000 of customers could receive the mailing.

2. The city is holding a 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East Improvements Public Meeting. The meeting is September 15<sup>th</sup> at the Kenwood Park United Methodist Church, 175 34<sup>th</sup> St. NE. A draft concept public meeting is scheduled for November 2011. The LCTA encourages input. For more information consult: [www.cr1stavenueeast.com](http://www.cr1stavenueeast.com).

## **New Business:**

**1. Board Membership:** Mike Wilson nominated Eric Penne to join the board. The motion passed unanimously. The board also accepted the resignation of Jeff Rosencrants.

**2. Creative Bike Installation:** Two racks the Pumpkin, 2<sup>nd</sup> St. and 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE, and the Egg (Czech Village) have been installed.

**3. Start Somewhere Walk:** . According to the 2010 Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index<sup>®</sup>, Iowa is #19 in the nation when it comes to being physically, emotionally and mentally healthy. We know we can do better, so we plan to claim the #1 spot by 2016. Individuals are encouraged to take the pledge to help create a healthier, happier Iowa today. With the goal of a better and healthier Iowa, a 1K walk is scheduled for noon October 7 at Veterans Memorial Stadium and other spots in the Metro Area. Visit to pledge your participation and to find other walk locations: [www.iowahealthieststate.com/start-somewhere-walk](http://www.iowahealthieststate.com/start-somewhere-walk).

**4. Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day:** LAMBA is holding a Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day on Saturday October 1<sup>st</sup> at Beverly Park.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Brad Mullin/Secretary



# **Linn County Trails Association**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

October/November 2011



**LCTA Board Meeting**

Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm

Location: United Way of East Central Iowa  
317 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE

**LCTA Annual Board Meeting**

Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm

Location: United Way of East Central Iowa  
317 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE