

# **Linn County Trails Association**

## **Board Meeting**

### **Monday February 10, 2014**

The monthly meeting of the Linn County Trail Association's Board of Directors was held on Monday February 10, 2014 at the United Way of East Central Iowa. A quorum was present. Those who attended the meeting were the following:

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

Steve Hershner (President), Paul Fiegen (Vice President), Keith Sutherland (Treasurer), Brad Mullin (Secretary) Sarah Barber Michelle Barker Vicky Evans Leland Freie Rex McCright Gary Palmer Eric Penne Larry Scott Kirschen Seah Mindy Sieffert John Wauer Mike Wilson Dick Woodward Kesha Billings Don Thomas Brandon Whyte.

Guests

Jon Ernst John Hager Dylan Sieffert

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

President, Steve Hershner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

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

On the February treasurer's report, Keith Sutherland reported current assets of \$80,770.

#### **Ride, Walk, Play CR:**

Gary Palmer reported on the creation of the Ride, Walk, Play CR event to occur on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Ten different organizations have agreed to participate. The one mile ride/walk will start National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library. The route will use the Cedar River Trail and visit the African American Museum of Iowa and the Cedar Rapids Art Museum. There will be a need for volunteers and route monitors from the LCTA.

2. **Linn County Conservation, Cedar Valley Nature Trail Paving (Schultz Rd. to Center Point)** : The County was notified that they were not awarded a grant with their recent application. As an alternative to grant funding, the County is working to identify local funding for the project. The County will continue to apply for grants as opportunities arise. We are currently in the budgeting process for FY 2015. The project has an estimated cost of \$1.2 million dollars.

Proposed budget at this time:

1. \$750,000 - Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) funds
2. \$290,000 – ITC funds
3. \$60,000 – Conservation Board Reserve Funds
4. \$100,000 – LCTA Contribution

Assuming the budget is approved, the County projects the following timeline:

Fall 2014 – Develop RFP for design and engineering

Winter 2014/15 – Trail engineering and design

Spring 2015 – Bid

Summer 2015 –Construction

Again, the County thinks this is the most optimistic timeline and is subject to change. This timeline would mean that we would need LCTA funds sometime in early to mid-2015. The group needs to identify interest in being involved.

## **Reports for Standing Committees:**

### **A. Public Awareness and Support (Paul Fiegen):**

#### **1.Linn County Trails Association Website:**

Paul discussed the updating of the website and possible upgrades to a mobile website. The board discussed fees charged by Cyber Innovation in regards to maintenance of the website. Paul mentioned the possibility of updating the LCTA brand with a logo redesign.

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

**1. Marion Master Trail Plan:** The city has approved the update of the Marion Master Plan. Plans include the creation of a steering committee. The first public input session is Tuesday, February 25th at the Lowe Park Arts and Environment Center (Marion) from 4-6pm.

**1. LAMBA:** Michelle Barker reported the LAMBA is working a grant writing for several area projects. The LAMBA Annual Winter Party will be held March 22<sup>nd</sup> at Eco Lips in the Cherry Building (329 10<sup>th</sup> Ave SE #213) from 6pm to 9pm.

### **C. Government Support:**

#### **1. Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMPO):**

The Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) is reviewing projects for FY18 funding. The City of Cedar Rapids submitted an additional project not included in the priority list from last year. The Iowa Department of Transportation will not fund the trail component of the Collins Road Improvement Project. The city is submitting a \$1.6 million project with an underpass of Collins Road and a short section of trail for consideration. In addition, the IDOT is not funding trail portions of the new construction of Tower Terrace Road. The board discussed the implication of funding such large projects at the expense of several smaller projects (that were included in the priority list and Fiscally Constrained Plan). Large projects would use the majority of the 80% of STP/TE funding allocated over the next 5 years.

#### **2.Bicycle Advisory Committee:**

The City of Cedar Rapids plans to have two submissions for Rockwell Green Communities Grants. One grant would fund the purchasing of bike racks and creation bicycle parking amenities at the new Downtown Convention Center. Another grant would purchase green paint for existing bicycle lanes. The City of Cedar Rapids plans to submit an application for an All-American City designation from the National Civic League.

### **D. Trail Operations and Safety (Jeff Keiser):**

1. No Report

**New Business:**

1. **New LCTA Board Member:** Mike Wilson moved that John Ernst join the LCTA Board. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **Cyber Innovations:** Due to recent additional maintenance charges, board discussed requesting a list of maintenance items covered by the current contract with them. The group would like to have an additional estimate cost for the entire year.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm



**Linn County Trails Association**  
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**



March/April 2014

**LCTA Board Meeting**

Monday, March 10, 7:00pm

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

**LCTA Board Meeting**

Monday, April 14, 7:00pm

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