



Linn County Trails Association Board Meeting Monday March 13th, 2017



The monthly meeting of the Linn County Trail Association’s Board of Directors was held on March 13, 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	
Dean Barnum	x
John Ernst	x
Vicky Evans	X
Paul Fiegen (Past-President)	X
Leland Freie	
John Hager	x
Diane Handler	x
Steve Hershner	X
Kevin Kirchner (Vice-President)	X
Kyle Lundberg	X
Ron McGraw	
Dick Mundy	X
Brad Mullin (Secretary)	X
Gary Palmer	X
Phillip Platz	X
Tom Peffer (President)	x
Larry Scott	X
Kirschen Seah	
Rich Smith	X
Keith Sutherland (Treasurer)	x
John Wauer	x
Dick Woodward	

Advisory Board Members	
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)	
Kesha Billings (City of Marion)	x
Brandon Whyte (Multimodal Transportation Planner, Corridor MPO Rep.)	
Barry McQuiston (LAMBA Rep)	x
Ken Barker (LAMBA)	
Ed Holstrom (Trail Map Distribution)	

Guests: None

Call to Order:

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

Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes for the February board meeting were distributed electronically. There was one correction. The event referred to as the “Taste of Uptown” does not have a title yet. It is not affiliated with “Taste of Uptown.” The minutes were approved unanimously with the correction.

Treasurer’s Report:

Keith Sutherland reported current assets of \$79,261.

Presentation: Kesha Billings, Associate Planner, City of Marion, "The Future Trails of Marion"

Marion Trails Plan: The Marion Trails Plan was adopted in 2005. In 2014, a full update occurred including more on-street bike accommodations and the creation of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Steering Committee. In 2017, the city updated the Trails Plan Map.

Grant Wood Trail Extension:

Length: 1.3 miles
Trail Type: 10 foot wide paved trail
Estimated Cost: \$922,000
Proposed Letting Date: July 2017
Construction Projection: Late 2017- Early 2018

CEMAR Trail:

Length: 3.8 miles
Trail Type: 10 foot wide paved trail
Estimated Cost: \$6.7 million
Proposed Letting Date: Initial design work has begun in 2017.
Construction Projection: 2018-2020
Project will begin with the resurfacing of the existing trail. A proposed letting date is for November 2017. Easement and property acquisition continue for the trail south of Highway 100 to the Cedar Rapids city limits.

Indian Creek Trail:

Length: 2.3 miles
Trail Type: 10 foot wide paved trail
Estimated Cost: \$2.8 million
Proposed Letting Date: Initial design work will occur in 2018.
Construction Projection: 2019-2020
Project will include use of existing greenway, acquisition of easements/property and use of existing infrastructure. The trail will connect Tower Terrace Road to Thomas Park.

10th Avenue Sidepaths:

Length: 2 miles (1 mile on each side of 10th Ave.)
Trail Type: 10 foot wide paved trail
Estimated Cost: \$3.5 million
Proposed Letting Date: Design work scheduled for 2018
Construction Projection: 2021-2022

Tower Terrace Road:

Future Tower Terrace Road will include 8 foot side-paths on either side of the road.

Committee Reports:

1. Trail Advocacy Committee: Steve Hershner

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

1. West Blue Creek Bridge:

Work is progressing well. The beams have been set, the form work for the bridge deck will be in place by early the week of the 13th. Steel reinforcing will be placed during the rest of this week. The contractor's goal is to have the deck poured by the end of the month. If the weather holds out, the bridge may be completed by late April/early May.

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 will meet with the contractor on March 24th, to begin prepping the remainder of the trail for concrete paving this spring. This will be 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 this season, ideally Fall 2017.

4. Red Cedar Mountain Bike Trail

Contracts have been sent to the contractor, and work may now begin as early as April 17th. A completion date is scheduled for fall.

5. Future Projects:

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. They have requested a design proposal to start the planning process for the trail extension from Hwy. 13 to Oxley Rd. The County has trails grant funding of \$220,000 to assist with this project. No time frame has been set for this. They will be building a new parking area east of Creekside Rd., just off of Secrist Rd. this year.

B. City of Marion: (See presentation)

2. Trails Operations and Safety Committee: Dick Mundy

A. Improving the access to trail near A Street entrance to the Landfill is still a concern. *Dick agreed to draft a letter to Daniel Gibbons asking for a list upcoming projects for 2017 and provide an upcoming article for the Trails Connections newsletter.*

3. Trail Funding Committee: John Hager and Larry Scott: No Report

4. Maps Committee: Dean Barnum: Dean discussed the costs associated with the publication of annual additions of the map.

5. Trail Counter Committee: John Wauer: The group has had two meetings. They are working on improving the existing counter. There is still a need for individuals to assist in replacing batteries. Any interested person should contact John Wauer.

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

A. LCTA Website: Philip and Paul have updated some of the section of the website.

B. Paul will email the Board for contributions to the LCTA History page on the website.

7. Membership Committee: Diane Handler

A. Several members of the committee met to establish newsletter deadlines and guidelines. Diane agreed to send a document to the board with the newsletter deadlines and guidelines:

“As discussed at last night's board meeting, our newsletter was an important topic of discussion at the joint meeting of the membership and outreach committees.

We determined the best themes for our recurring newsletter, and set annual deadlines accordingly:

End of April Newsletter // Theme: Welcome back to the trails, what's new this year, update on trail usage
End of July Newsletter // Theme: What's happening on the trails now and the rest of the summer. Ways to plug into our mission. Mayor's bike ride preview.

End of October Newsletter // Theme: fundraising push/member drive/ways to get involved in LCTA & stay active on the trails over the winter.

End of January Newsletter // Theme: Donor list & member appreciation, president's report & previous year LCTA accomplishments

In addition to the themes listed above, we also established column needs that will reoccur in every newsletter. The respective standing committees should provide to Brad by the due dates listed later in this message:

Theme-specific/season-specific monetary ask (200–400 words) — Funding/Membership Committee
Topical Trails 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) — Advocacy Committee
Any important trail closures/detours updates (200 words/as applicable) — Operations/Safety Committee
Trail Safety & Education/how to navigate and use the trails (~400 words) — Operations/Safety Committee
President's message (~200 words) — LCTA President

These are the 2017 Newsletter Dates & Content Needs/Deadlines:

All newsletter content can be submitted to Brad Mullin <mullinb1427@yahoo.com>.

APRIL 24 NEWSLETTER:

- All content is due March 20
- Additional column/update (~400 words) from Trail Count Committee on trail usage from previous years/advocacy for trail count reporting
- Additional column/update (~400 words) from Outreach Committee on new trails this year

JULY 24 NEWSLETTER:

- All content is due June 19
- Additional column/update (~400 words) from Outreach Committee on Mayor's Bike Ride Preview & other summer events

OCTOBER 30 NEWSLETTER:

- All content is due September 18
- Membership Committee should develop a strong appeal/push (~800 words instead of usual column)

JANUARY 29 NEWSLETTER:

- All content is due December 11
- Membership Committee will provide updated list of donors/members.
- LCTA President will provide a year-end report.
- Outreach Committee will recap previous year LCTA accomplishments”

New 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.
 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,
1. **Next Month Presentation :** "JON BOGERT and MEGAN MOFFITT of Anderson Bogert, and ROB DAVIS, CR Flood Control Manager, on flood protection and trails".

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm



Linn County Trails Association

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



LCTA Board Meetings

LCTA Board Meeting

Monday, April 10th, 6:00pm

Location: Cedar Rapids Water Administration Building

1111 Shaver Rd. NE.