



Linn County Trails Association Board Meeting Monday October 9th, 2017



The monthly meeting of the Linn County Trail Association’s Board of Directors was held on October 9th, 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	
Dick Mundy	x
Brad Mullin (Secretary)	x
Gary Palmer	x
Phillip Platz	x
Tom Peffer (President)	x
Larry Scott	x
Kirschen Seah	x
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)	
Randy Burke (Linn County Conservation)	
Dennis Goemaat (Linn County Conservation)	
Kesha Billings (City of Marion)	
Brandon Whyte (Multimodal Transportation Planner, Corridor MPO Rep.)	x
Barry McQuiston (LAMBA Rep)	
Ken Barker (LAMBA)	
Ed Holstrom (Trail Map Distribution)	

Guests: Nicole Roth

Call to Order:

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

Presentation: Ron Corbett Resolution:

Since the early 1980’s Ron Corbett has been an advocate for trail development. Mayor Ron Corbett was instrumental in the Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization’s decision to allocate 80% of funding for trail development. LCTA agreed that a formal recognition of Mayor Corbett’s contributions was appropriate in the form of a resolution. Tom Peffer read the following recognizing Cedar Rapids Mayor, Ron Corbett:

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Linn County Trails Association's mission is to support and aid in the development of recreational trails that will benefit the residents of Linn County; and

Whereas, trails in Linn County are enjoyed by people of all ages and abilities, enhance the quality of life for our citizens, increase tourist activity and provide alternative transportation routes for non-motorized vehicles, and

Whereas, the Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMPO) is an organization made up of elected officials and appointed representatives of Cedar Rapids, Linn County, Marion, Hiawatha, Robins, Ely, Fairfax, and Palo, and the CMPO is tasked with reviewing and approving transportation investments in the Cedar Rapids metropolitan area; and

Whereas, the CMPO distributes federal gas tax dollars for the funding of trail, street and transit projects in Linn County, and is critical to the funding of recreational trail projects in Linn County; and

Whereas, Ron Corbett, in his capacity as mayor of the City of Cedar Rapids, was instrumental in reallocating the formula for the distribution of CMPO funds for trail development from 5% to 80% during federal funding years 2016 to 2020, thereby greatly assisting in the expansion of the recreational trails system in Linn County during that period;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, the Linn County Trails Association commends Cedar Rapids Mayor, Ron Corbett, for his wisdom, foresight, effectiveness and ongoing support of the development of recreational trails in Linn County, Iowa;

Dated this 9th day of October, 2017.

Tom Pepper, President
Linn County Trails Association

The motion to approve the resolution passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes:

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

Treasurer's Report:

Keith Sutherland reported current assets of \$87,950. The report was accepted unanimously.

Keith asked for board approval for the following transfer of funds from previous designated accounts and the closure of the accounts.

1. Transfer of \$802 from the RX4Fitness account to the Trail Development Fund. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Transfer of \$500 from the IT Improvement Fund into the Trail Development Fund. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Transfer of the current undesignated Memorial Fund donations to the Trail Development Fund. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

1. Trail Advocacy Committee:

A. Linn County Conservation: No Report

B. City of Marion (Kesha Billings): No Report

C. Linn Area Mountain Bike Association:

1. Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day: Saturday, October 7th. Squaw Creek Park, Meadowlark Shelter. 11am to 2pm. LAMBA had 24 kids participate in the event.

2. Beverly Park Trail Run: Sunday, November 12th, Beverly Park.

D. Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization: Brandon Whyte presented a tentative timeline for upcoming trail construction funded through the CMPO:

2018:

1. Marion: Grant Wood Trail Extension from Highway 13 to 35th St.
2. Cedar Rapids: CEMAR Phase 1A
3. Cedar Rapids: CEMAR Phase 1C
4. Cedar Rapids: Edgewood Road Trail from Ellis Blvd. to O Ave. NW
5. Sac and Fox Extension to Trailbridge Rd. SE

2019:

1. Cedar Rapids: Grant Wood Trail Extension from the IBEW hall to C Ave.
2. Marion: CEMAR Trail from Highway 100 north to abandoned railroad bridges.
3. Cedar Rapids: Cherokee Trail, Phase 1, from Morgan Creek Park to Sharon Lane NW.

2020:

1. Cedar Rapids: Cherokee Trail, Phase 2, from Sharon Lane NW to Midway Dr. NW
2. Marion: CEMAR trail south of Highway 100 to the Cedar Rapids city limits.
3. Cedar Rapids: Grant Wood (Lindale) Extension from C Ave to Council St.
4. Marion: CEMAR trail to 7th St. replacement of the abandoned railroad bridges.
5. Marion: Indian Creek Trail

2021:

1. Cedar Rapids: Lindale Connector from Marion CEMAR trail to Glenbrook Dr. SE in Cedar Rapids.
2. Cedar Rapids: Edgewood Trail: Phase A
3. Cedar Rapids: Cherokee Trail, Phase 3 from Midway Dr. to 15th St. NW

2022:

1. Cedar Rapids: Cherokee Trail, Phase 4 from 15th St. NW to Flood Control System.

2. Outreach and Public Awareness Committee (Phillip Platz and Paul Fiegen):

A. Phillip Platz: LCTA Fall Capital Campaign:

After a discussion with Linn County Conservation Department, it was determined that further plans for paving the Cedar Valley Nature Trail north of Center Point was not in the immediate future. As a result, the Capital Campaign Committee decided to propose alternative projects for consideration by the LCTA Board.

1. HWY. 100 TRAIL, PHASE A — \$100,000

The Hwy. 100 Trail will act as a major connector in an ambitious trail loop through Linn County, connecting Northeast Cedar Rapids to Covington and Morgan Creek Park. From there, the fully-funded Cherokee Trail will connect Morgan Creek Park to downtown Cedar Rapids.

Phase A of this project runs from 42nd Street NE in Cedar Rapids, through Xavier High School, to the edge of the Cedar River. It provides trail access to wildy scenic state and county nature preserves.

By providing Linn County \$100,000 for this project, LCTA can green light the county's efforts and get work on this project started as quickly as possible. This project will also unlock the county's efforts to restore a former rail bridge over the Cedar River.

2. LINDALE TRAIL EXTENSION, PHASE 2 — \$75,000

The Lindale Trail Extension will connect the Cedar Valley Nature Trail in Cedar Rapids to the Grant Wood Trail in Marion. Beginning at the current west terminus of the Lindale Trail at C Avenue NE and ending at the Cedar River Trail at Center Point Road NE, funding will accelerate this project and ensure a complete, separated-trail connection is made between the two larger trails systems.

Currently, there are no east-west connection trails in Cedar Rapids.

Phase 1 of this project, completely funded, brings the Lindale trail west from C Avenue NE, ending at Council Street.

Phase 2 of this project, which LCTA seeks donations to provide funding for, will make that last essential connection, from Council Street to the Cedar River Trail at Center Point Road.

By providing the City of Cedar Rapids \$75,000 for this project, LCTA can accelerate the development of this trail by approximately one full year, anticipating construction in 2019. It will also allow considerations for the design work of this trail to include the possibility of working along an existing rail corridor, completing the most-direct, and separated-trail connection possible.

After discussion, Steve Hershner moved that the Board pursue a capital campaign to raise funds for both projects. Keith Sutherland seconded the motion. After further discussion the Board voted, the motion passed with a majority of votes. *Those who voted in favor of the motion were: Sarah Barber, Vicky Evans, Paul Fiegen, Leland Freie, Steve Hershner, Kevin Kirchner, Dick Mundy, Brad Mullin, Gary Palmer, Phillip Platz, Tom Peffer, Kirschen Seah, Larry Scott, Rich Smith, Keith Sutherland and John Wauer. Those who voted against the motion were: Dean Barnum*

B. Hoover Nature Trail: Ely Ribbon Cutting:

On October 15th, part of the 10th Annual Ely Fall Fest, Ely Mayor Eldy Miller will cut the ribbon on the new Hoover trail extension. After the ceremonial opening, at 10 am, there will be a ride down to Seven Sisters Road where Linn County Conservation will provide an explanation of the future trail expansion down to Solon, coming in the next couple years. The ride pace will be family friendly and the distance is 2 miles.

New Business:

1. **LCTA Board Nominating Committee:** The committee of Diane Handler, Steve Hershner and Dean Barnum will present a nomination list for the LCTA Board at the November Meeting for approval.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm



LCTA Board Meetings

LCTA Board Meeting
November 13th, 2017
Location: Cedar Rapids Water Administration Building
1111 Shaver Rd. NE.