

Fox Cities Greenways, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2016
Appleton Public Library
225 N. Oneida St., Appleton, WI 54911

Present: Zadrazil, Jones, Dane, Gregory, Cuff, Stinson, Stoll, Moore. Advisory Council: Heifner, Gardner, McDaniel Guest: Shari Iglar

President Zadrazil called the meeting to order 5:30pm.

Zadrazil announced Andrew Dane will be incoming President for 2017 and Meredith Mason has resigned as off-board secretary. Zadrazil introduced Annette Look as the new off-board secretary.

Immediate Discussion Items

- **Recruitment:** Currently the board has 11 members. Discussion was held on the optimal number of board members and how best to leverage the membership to help with volunteer tasks. The bylaws will be reviewed for information on board size. It was suggested this be a topic for discussion at the upcoming strategic planning session. Gardner will provide an article on the board's role. Zadrazil would like identifying a volunteer coordinator to be a priority.
- **Annual Meeting:** \$350 raised; 110 in attendance. Riverview Gardens as venue was fabulous; Displays were on target; Piano player was well received and it was good to have coffee and water available for entire meeting. The food was good, but ran short.

Next year consider a raffle as auction items did not raise a significant amount. The meeting runs over the dinner hour so should we consider a higher fee and serve dinner or push the time later? In the past the meeting was just coffee and dessert. The format has been the same for the last seven years, so perhaps it's time for a change. Ideas include a new name to make it more inclusive; determine the purpose of the meeting - in the past it's been to introduce new board members.

Thank you to Jan, Julie, Tim and Cheryl for the work they did on the annual meeting. Tim has agreed to chair the 2017 annual meeting committee.

- **Strategic Planning:** The strategic planning meeting will occur outside of the regular board meeting. Cuff has gotten a cost estimate from a facilitator from K-C. Dane will contact Katherine Neiswender from the UW-Extension to inquire about her availability to facilitate.

Would like to get external information from the membership before the meeting. Outreach in prior years included a survey done at the annual meeting, asking for feedback through the newsletter, or board members called three-four members to solicit feedback. This year we'll start with a survey monkey.

Timeline - schedule in March for a strategic planning meeting the end of April.

- **Fox Wisconsin Heritage Parkway:** A request to replace signage along the Parkway Trail has been submitted. 58 signs have faded and need to be replaced. Three quotes were received and the recommended vendor is Rhino Sign out of Minnesota. Rhino provides a 15 year guarantee and was the low bid at \$1626.

The board discussed the history of Greenways originally funding signage for the Parkway Trail. Because trails fall across several municipal jurisdictions, it can be difficult to garner consensus and funding for trail signage. Greenways mission of trail development includes funding signage. Fox Cities Visitors and Convention Bureau also funds wayfinding signage and may be a resource for this signage. Gardner will contact the CVB. Fox Wisconsin Heritage Parkway wanted signage completed by May. Greenways does not want to be responsible for installation of signs. **MSC: Dane/Moore to fund the full cost of signs for the Fox Wisconsin Heritage Parkway, or the portion remaining if the CVB provides funds. Motion carried.**

- Greenways Ink: Spring 2016 issue should be mailed the end of April. The following volunteered to write articles for the next issue:
 - Heifner - annual meeting and photo winner
 - Zadrazil - president's message
 - Retrospective of Mike Kading's service - will ask Vickie Milde to write. Cuff will write if she cannot.
 - McDaniel - Happy Trails
 - Dane - City trail updates
 - Stoll - Paper Trail
 - Stinson - Bike Challenge and Bike Week
 - Gardner - Kayak schedule
 - Look - Loop the Lake
 - Stoll - Federal Transportation Funds

Articles to be submitted to Look by April 1 with a target mailing date of the last week of April.

Other items to include could be a trail advocacy 101 type article with a call to action section.

Reports

Treasurer: Cuff reported an unrestricted fund balance of \$74,590.13. There are restricted fund balances that have been in accounts for a long time. The Trestle Trail balance will be discussed with Mike Kading. Restricted fund balances could be a discussion item for the strategic planning meeting.

January had a net increase of \$2,400 - \$1,000 was from a grant awarded to Sue Kinde.

MSC: Stinson/Dane to accept the Treasurer's Report and January Minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

FCCA: Stinson reported the CE trail between 441 and 10 is not being maintained. Meeting with Village of Kimberly to discuss plowing of the trail. The FCCA will be preparing questions regarding bike lanes to be submitted to the League of Women Voters and used in upcoming municipal election debates.

Working on a rails to trails project from Grand Chute to the intersection of Badger and Wisconsin Ave.

Upcoming events include a moonlight ride Feb 26 at City Park and a Fat Tire Race at Lecker Park on Sunday.

Heifner distributed the minutes from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee for review and highlighted Appleton is working on a 5-year bike plan and downtown mobility study as part of its comprehensive plan.

Paper Trail: Heifner reported currently assessing what signage is missing.

VP: Jones attended the Menasha Common Council meeting which discussed the proposed route for Loop the Lake. A proposal considering an alternate route which would cross sanitary district and We Energies properties was discussed. This route requires spending of \$134,000 for paving and possible additional costs for land acquisition. The conclusion of discussion was to pass the city street route with an amendment to do a feasibility study to explore the alternate route.

Happy Trail: McDaniel reported the event will be September 26, the day after Oktoberfest, however there is no police force available for traffic control. A route was approved to run through both cemeteries and on the Fox River Trail and finish by the Refuge. The event will include a competitive race. McDaniel shared the prototype for the hand-made wood laser carved awards. There will be 28 awards. The committee will be meeting again within the next two weeks.

Around the Board

Heifner – Weight of the Fox Valley is working on a resolution to be passed by all municipalities. Working on an exercise in the park program.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:00pm.

Next Meeting: March 10, 2016 – 5:30pm