

Bike Path Ad Hoc Committee Minutes

1/12/13 Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Bike Path Ad Hoc Committee was called to order on Saturday, January 12, 2013 at 10:00 A.M. at Pokanokas Restaurant in Shabbona IL.

Additions to the Agenda: None

Citizen's Addressing the Board: None

Discussion of Bike Path: Dan Nolan explained that Al Aspengren was the first to propose a possible bike path to the village board in early 2012. George Bellovics a landscape architect from the Department of Natural Resources was on hand to discuss possibilities and answer questions regarding a bike path. Shabbona State Park had over 445,000 visitors each of the last three years. Mr. Bellovics explained the different levels of bicyclist's confidence will dictate which type of path they will feel comfortable using. There are multiple places that a path could link into the park. He also recommended naming the bike path and signage could be placed on the path and pointing to the path. Another suggestion made was possibly linking the schools to the path.

Mr. Bellovics also discussed some funding options. Recreational Trails Program (RTP) do have grants available. The federal funds are 80/20 with a deadline of March 1st. Up to 15.5% can be used for engineering services. The Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) also has grants available, but are typically for large projects with a \$2 million cut off.

There are 3 types of trails:

- 1) Off Road Trail- width of 10ft plus additional 2ft shoulders. Signage on these paths would need to be 3ft. off of the trail. AASHTO engineering standards apply. The surface of the trail needs to meet ADA standards. Polymers are available but don't always hold up as well as concrete or blacktop.
- 2) Class2 bike path simply consists of a line on a roadway with signage noting a bike path.
- 3) Class 3 bike route simply consists of sign along the road stating bike route. There are guidelines to determine if a street is suitable for this type of route found at www.bikelib.org.

It was asked if the 20% of the 80/20 for the grant had to be cash or could be in kind. Mr. Bellovics said Dave Solomon in Springfield could answer that question. He would provide Mr. Solomon's contact information to Dan Nolan.

Tobie DePauw of Axletree bike shop in DeKalb stated he has started a non-profit organization and would be happy to help. He also stated he has a number of people who would be willing to help with construction and maintenance of a path. Mr. DePauw also mentioned the potential for mountain biking and special events that could be held.

Norm Beeh asked about if a grade crossing at a railroad should be a concern. The Illinois Commerce Commission would possibly need to be involved.

In closing George Bellovics mentioned thinking about the experience of the trail to help determine the route of the trail. He also suggested thinking about bike racks in town.

Charlie Foster informed the committee of the long term outlook of the county's plans to link existing and new bike routes.

Jerry Foster suggested the group break into subcommittees to discuss funding ideas and design options. After further discussion it was decided that each person look at the provided maps and come up with a route plan, type of trail they think would be preferable and possible funding ideas.

Discussion of Economic Development: Jerry Foster discussed economic possibilities such as grants and fundraising. He also presented a list of other possible activities that could be available or provided along with the bike path in Shabbona.

1. Zip lines
2. Miniature golf
3. Tubing/ Sledding
4. Ball fields
5. Swimming pool or swimming hole
6. Frisbie Golf

Adjournment: Next meeting January 26, 2013 10:00 a.m. at Pokanokas Restaurant

Meeting Minutes of the Village of Shabbona, Illinois submitted by Village Clerk Allison Kidd Probst.

/s/ _____ January 19, 2013