

Bike Path Ad Hoc Committee Minutes

1/17/15 Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Bike Path Ad Hoc Committee was called to order on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at 9:00 A.M. at the Resource Bank in Shabbona IL. The following committee members/ advisors were present:

Dan Nolan
Jerry Foster
Al Aspengren
Wendy Schnorr
Curt Herrmann
Marc Cinnamon
Curt Foster
Suzann Alde
Stephanie Herrmann
Allison Kidd Probst
Steve Buchtel

Additions to the Agenda: None

Citizen's Addressing the Board: None

Approval of Minutes from November 19, 2014 Meeting: Curt Herrmann motioned to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2014 meeting. Al Aspengren seconded. All in favor voted aye, motion carried.

DeKalb County Forest Preserve Meeting: Dan Nolan passed out a packet containing a letter of support from the WSBA for the project. Also a letter that was placed in the Village of Shabbona newsletter. Minutes from the recent Forest Preserve meeting were also attached and Terry Hannon requested another presentation to the new board.

Next Era has sent \$5000.00 to the committee. The money is being earmarked for marketing and was deposited with the DCEDC until the committee has a 501c3 established.

Steve Buchtel-Americorps Discussion: Steve Buchtel spoke about the recent project he had Americorps work on this past summer in Lake Shelbyville. He has started a program called "Illinois Trail Corp" In Lake Shelbyville he had 8 people work from the end of June to early August and was able to rebuild approximately 70% of the trail. They were also able to train local volunteers on how to do the work so they could maintain the path.

Mr. Butchel feels that the trail in Shabbona has many advantages. The terrain is not difficult and feels that 1-2 miles per month could be completed by Americorps. The program can be used as a match. The wage level of \$18.00/hour is set with an estimate of the number of hours needed to determine the match amount. They will be able to complete the path up to the point of paving.

Steve Butchel talked about the different grants available and said that ITEP and RTP funds are usually spread over more locations causing funding to be reduced. He also asked if the committee was looking at funds from Safe Routes to School, it has been discussed and may be one are that funds will be applied for. Mr. Butchel also asked if representatives would be interested and going with him to local universities to discuss the Americorps. The committee was interested.

Market the Pathway Strategy: The committee is planning to name the trail the Shabbona Pathway at this time. Steve Butchel feels that a slogan can be helpful but isn't the most important aspect of marketing. He stressed that a map which clearly shows where the path will be which is simple, on a neutral background, with a bright line for the path and specific locations and streets should be clearly marked is the most helpful in marketing. He also highly recommended providing the triple bottom line, this provides a three benefits at the bottom followed by contact name and information. This is important to be placed on the website.

A slogan involving "10,000 steps" was discussed. The next step is to get property agreements in order to apply for grants. George Bellovics will be asked for a copy of a landowners agreement in order to save time in creating one. Mr. Butchel also recommended speaking to Mr. Bellovics for legal advice from IDNR.

Stephanie Herrmann recommended looking into a walk/run/ride as a fundraiser in the early spring. This would not only raise funds but also show people where the propose route is intended to be. Grant money is also available for extreme sports events. Having pedometers donated and having local businesses tally their sales for the day of the event was also discussed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

The next meeting will be on February 21, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Resource Bank.

Meeting Minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee submitted by Allison Kidd Probst.

/s/_____ January 19, 2015