

Bike Path Ad Hoc Committee Minutes

11/19/14 Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Bike Path Ad Hoc Committee was called to order on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at 5:10 P.M. at the Resource Bank in Shabbona IL. The following committee members/ advisors were present:

Dan Nolan
Nancy Pardridge
Al Aspengren
Frank Ottengheime
Wendy Schnorr
Jim Johnson
Jerry Foster
Linda Novotny
Curt Herrmann
Allison Kidd Probst

Additions to the Agenda: None

Citizen's Addressing the Board: None

Approval of Minutes from October 18, 2014 Meeting: Al Aspengren motioned to approve the minutes. Curt Herrmann seconded. All in favor Aye. Motion carried.

Fehr Graham: Representatives from Fehr Graham were present to discuss options for grants. Jim Johnson asked about top limits on grants. A paved path was built in Whiteside County for approximately \$160,000.00 per mile on construction costs. This was without land acquisition. Having snowmobiles on the trail increases the chances of receiving funding.

ITEP has no limits but IDNR does have a limit. ITEP is a much more difficult grant to get and to spend because it is a government grant. Jerry Foster asked the timeframe for ITEP. It varies for each year, last year it closed the end of August but was not offered in 2014. Fehr Graham can pull together the grant application within 4-6 weeks.

Curt Herrmann asked what can be done to improve the chances of getting a grant. Getting as many partners, letters of support, and community involvement will be valuable. It was also discussed that the committee is thinking more of getting a right of way rather than purchasing land. For the ITEP grant Fehr Graham recommends getting the easement before the grant is applied for. An agreement is acceptable.

Can more than one grant be applied for at a time? Yes both the IDNR and RTP are an 80/20 matching grant. The IDNR application is consistent but the RTP is less predictable. IDNR is January to March grant window.

Dan Nolan asked about the Fehr Graham costs. They will hold the costs the same as last year. They will check to see if there are any grant application costs that may be additional. They will also verify the costs within reason for the project in their assessment. They will do 2 attempts on the grant process for the cost.

The best idea is to have the Village apply for the grants since there is no park district in Shabbona.

DeKalb Count Forest Preserve: Jim Johnson, Dan Nolan and Jerry Foster went to the board meeting last night to explain the project and what the committee is looking for. Asked Forest Preserve to be lead agency after path completion. Also asked for \$1000.00 per year funding for maintenance. The board seemed to be supportive of the project. Terry Hannon did research with their insurance provider to cover liability. They are eager to assist with a project that is in the southern portion of the county.

Village Board Meeting: The resolution passed 6-0 in the meeting so the village is in support of the project.

Dan Nolan spoke with George Bellovics from the state park and they are discussing in the park trail improvement. They want to work hand in hand with us to make sure that the paths tie together well.

Market the Pathway: When do we want to push this forward? Can we use the money from Forest Preserve and Next Era for marketing and for the grant? The business association is willing to be used as a pass thru for the funds/ donations. Jerry and Wendy will get together to create the budget. Resource Bank may be supportive with helping on funding. Jim Johnson feels should ask the village for the funds to pay Fehr Graham and then try to raise the funds for the marketing. He also feels that we should create our own 501c3 group. Mr. Johnson was authorized to set up 501c3.

Dan Nolan will ask Terry Hannon if the County Forest Preserve would be willing to fund the engineering portion.

Marketing meeting will need to be held. Also an agreement with landowners will need to be obtained. Dan and Jerry will talk to landowners along Preserve Road to see if they will give up 8 feet in the ditch for improvements. May also need to speak with the County Highway Engineer to approve the idea as well. Jim Johnson will speak with him.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

The next meeting will be on January 3, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Resource Bank.

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

/s/ _____ November 19, 2014