

Bicycle Pedestrian Trail Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting: Monday, May 5, 2014

Attendees:

Hunter Homes, Jim DeHerrera, Mike Fitzgerald, Ron Brunk, and John Phelps

Bruce Boody and Doug Adams

Maria Butts, Karin Hilding, and Wendy Compton-Ring

Meeting Called to order at 8:30 am

Minutes from the April 7, 2014 meeting were approved with minor corrections.

Public Comment

Two individuals from the public were concerned about possible drainage issues that might arise with the Flint/6th Street request to move the trail easement. Karin stated that she and several others walked the property and concluded that the easement should remain as it is. Mike Fitzgerald made a motion to deny Nathen Bashford's request to move the trail easement. Hunter Homes seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Another citizen was concerned about cyclists' responsibilities of insurance liability. John Phelps informed the citizen that the committee does not hold the authority to make these regulations. The gentleman was also concerned about the potential for collisions on the bike path and suggested that all cyclists be equipped with a warning sounding device. John Phelps recommended that he approach City Council with this concern, as the committee does not hold the authority to implement this type of regulation.

Old Business

Flint/6th Street –

Ron Brunk made a suggestion that the City consider purchasing the property for use as green space. Ron will discuss this with the Park Board.

Skye Park Bridge -

Karin stated she has worked on a proposal for a land/easement transfer that she will present to City Council May 19th. The proposal reflects a land and easement transfer for both the City and the Hag property. The City will need to obtain rights to the property adjoining the lift station in order to install the lift station. Karin has recommended that Doug Peppmeier continue with the design. There is still time for this to go to bid.

Mike Fitzgerald discussed the need for a willow tree and pylons to be removed in order to create a beach area, river access and to install a dock. Although this is not in the project's scope at this time, this could be listed as an alternate in the bid as a means of obtaining a cost analysis. In addition, Jim DeHerrera mentioned that these items should be included in the permit request.

Whitefish River Non-motorized Boat Restriction

The Committee is waiting for the commission's decision.

Building Active Communities Initiative Task Force

Karin stated that there is a B.A.C.I meeting planned for June. There will likely be eleven individuals at this meeting. They will be creating an Active Transportation Plan. Also, this Friday is the last Safe Routes to School day.

New Business

New Path Near Town Pump

Karin is working with DNRC and MDT to begin the process of a new portion of the bike path near the Town Pump. Bruce Boody will provide the committee with drawings for this project. DNRC will want a survey to be completed before they move forward. The committee will set up a meeting with Norm from DNRC to discuss DNRC's ability to grant an easement for this project.

2nd Street/Stumptown Inn Stairways

The committee want to be sure that there is secured funding for the stairs. Karin will obtain a cost estimate for the concrete work and drawings, as well as identify a company to pour the concrete. Doug Adams will meet with Karin to assess the installation of the stairways. Bruce and Karin will review the survey of the previous bridge to determine the amount of room available in the right of way. There may be a need for a temporary pad located at the bottom of the stairway to serve as a landing pad until the path can be completed.

Kay Beller Park Drainage

Mike Fitzgerald expressed concern over the drainage around the path that travels through Kay Beller Park. Karin stated that MDT does not provide funding for the landscape architect to assess the implementation of the plans. Karin will request MDT to provide an individual to monitor the progress of this project.

Ron Brunk mentioned that the State will provide the Parks and Recreation Department with funding to cover some of the costs to repair damage done to the park from the bridge construction. Ron will discuss this with the Park Board. He would like to see the docks put in and will obtain the funding from the state to cover this cost. As well, Ron wondered if MDT would be able to place more river rock on the beach to fill in the receded areas. Karin will check on this.

Mike Fitzgerald commented on the blockage of the culverts in the Whitefish River. Karin stated that she had contacted MDT to have them clear the culverts. Mike will check to see if they have been cleared.

Volunteer Projects

Karin stated that the condition of the fence through Kay Beller Park would be a significant volunteer project for this summer. It was also noted that the Rocksund Bridge railing is in need of repair.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30am.

Next meeting: June 2, 2014