

McLeod County Trails Committee



Date: 05/04/2017 @6:30 pm

McLeod County Fairgrounds Country Diner

Committee Members: (X=present)

X	Keith Froeming	X	Mary Behrens	X	Jon Christensen
X	Steve Cook	X	John Gillard	X	Tony Hausladen
X	Dean Nissen		Tim Olson	X	Kyle Strobel
X	Tim Haag		Kevin Klucas		

Others present:

John Brunkhorst, Kent Exner, Doug Krueger, Paul Wright, Al Koglin, Cindy Ludewig, Jim Bobier, Bill Arndt, Daryl Luthens

Call Meeting to Order

- Al Koglin opened the meeting at 6:30pm
- Introductions were made by all around the table.

Approval of minutes from prior meeting(s)

- Meeting notes from 03/30/2017, will be revised to reflect changes from the members and approved for publication at the next meeting.

Handling meeting discussion (public attendees)

- Al K asked the committee how they would like the public questions asked in the meeting handled?
 - General response was to let them ask as needed, as long as it doesn't get out of hand, then it would have to be tabled for a later discussion.

Discussion of the letter sent to the land owners along the trail

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- John B would like the list from the excel file sent to the committee so they are aware of who got the letters, this is include the count for the number of letters that were distributed.
 - Al will compile this and sent to the committee members; emailed: 05/05/17
 - 175 letters were mailed.
 - As of today, Al has had 15 people respond; 2 have objected so far
 - Al will compile the feedback he is getting and will bring to the next meeting.
 - Steve C asked for a reminder to be sent out to the landowners who have not responded after a one month period of time.
- Tim H asked who would be responsible to culverts, etc
 - Culverts, DNR until we take over the trail.
 - Tile, landowner
- Paul W, stated, he hopes the people/land owners will come forward and let us know where the culverts and tiles are so we are educated as to how many we need to consider in this project.
- Al K talked to one of the landowners about some left behind railroad ties; Al submitted a request to have these removed within the next 60-90 days.
- As indicated in the trails plan, screening will need to be done near the Luthens farm.
- Al asked if anyone was interested in taking a tour of the trail?
 - Or even just parts of the trail
 - 2 mile stretch by Lester Prairie
 - Kent, proposed doing spot checks along the trail versus touring the entire 16 miles of trail
 - Solid waste, east past Luthens farm
 - Upon further discussion, consensus was to start the next meeting at the Solid waste building and start tour from there.
 - Al will make arrangements for the ATV's
 - Paul W offered up his 6-person ATV, if needed.
 - Doodle will be sent for Wed / Thurs options
 - Al, also indicated he has pictures that were taken when the grant was first written, they only problem with them, is that they are not identified as to where the pictures line-up along the trail.
- Luthens stated that he was being charged a fee to cross the trail and that the fees were being collected by Hennepin County.

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- Paul W asked why he was paying Hennepin County?
 - Hennepin County was collecting for McLeod County.
- Al, discussed Dakota history
 - Al will invite Sheldon to come to next month's meeting for more details

Trail Maintenance Discussion

- Al emailed everyone the DNR funding information listed below and recommends everyone read it; if you would prefer to have a printed copy, please let Al know.
 - St. Paul provided me with this link to a power point that explains Natural Resource funding. The horse pass information is included under miscellaneous accounts.
 - [NR fund http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/aboutdnr/budget/nr_fund/2015-nrfund.pdf](http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/aboutdnr/budget/nr_fund/2015-nrfund.pdf)
 - Steve C has a one page summary also, if anyone is interested.
- Tony H asked, how much \$\$ has been raised by a bike tax?
 - \$0.00
 - Doug K stated that the bike tax is gaining strength
- Kyle S discussed how the funding works for the snowmobile club
- Tony H stated that if the DNR is asking us to take on maintenance, what's our funding for maintenance? What make sense?
 - County would want to make sure everything was identified before the grant moves forward
 - County would need to set aside \$\$ for maintenance yearly, planning in advance
 - Maintenance agreement for 20-years will cost the county \$??.
 - Where is the revenue source going to come from?
 - Tax payers?
- Jim B asked about the usage of the Luce Line Trail? To get a feel for the number of people that potentially will be using.
 - Also would like to know if there is data from Carver county on the Luce Line before it was tarred and then after.
 - Al will ask DNR for data from the Luce Line trail and present back to the committee.
- Doug K, stated that he has talked to people who use trails and to them it doesn't matter what type of surface the trail is.
- Doug K/Kyle S, asked if the county had any agreement for "Ownership"?
 - What are we good for?
 - Rail Authority has complete authority.

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- Sheldon N would be able to advise us
- Dakota plan included the following members:
 - Al, Kent, John
 - Kyle S felt that he was not involved in the plan that was “approved”
 - Steve C, stated that the meetings happened, a person should not be able to claim they were not involved, if they chose to not come
 - Al will send a copy of both trail plans to Kyle S
- When was the Dakota Plan approved by the Board?
 - May 17, 2016
- Doug K, would like Al to find all the board minutes for the Dakota Trail and send to Doug
- Steve C, felt that the group needed to come to an agreement as to what the final trail will be in order to move forward.
- Doug asked, if we could at least use Grant II to get the trail back to being useful versus being a Cadillac (paved)?

General Discussion

- Tim H, asked about having a “Spokesperson” for the committee? He is on many boards and this is typically how they are run.
 - At the March 20th meeting we also discussed this and the conclusion at that time was to keep it as it is.
 - Al K will take this question to the Board of Directors for the county and ask them if this is what they would like done with this committee, or if they would prefer to run it as it has been, with Parks Director running as the chair / co-chair.
 - Al will advise the trail committee members of the County Boards decision on this as soon as it is known.

Next Meeting:

- Will start at Solid Waste in Hutchinson, Mn
- Doodle will be sent, majority vote wins meeting date
- Doodle will be sent for regular meeting one week after tour

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Agenda for next Meeting:

- Spokesperson / Chair for meeting
- Goals for the trails, what do we want to do with grant \$\$

Meeting Adjourned:

- Al Koglin adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm