

MINUTES St. Croix Bike & Ped Trails Coalition Board of Directors

Town of Somerset Town Hall, March 13, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

Items in italics added after publication of the agenda. Some items renumbered after publication.

CALL TO ORDER – André Johnson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at ~6:30 p.m.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE - Johnson indicated the agenda was posted at the Town of Somerset Town Hall and on the Coalition web site.

ROLL CALL - Members present were Susan Heuiser, André Johnson, Andrew Lamers, Mark Vanasse and alternate board member Susan Stepka. Board members Mark Gherty, Pam Kaiser, Kyle Lindstrom, David Mandel and Marian Webber were absent. Ben Heuiser was also present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – A **motion** (Lamers, Vanasse) to adopt the agenda as presented. **Carried** with no opposition.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Opportunity for comments on subjects not on the agenda when recognized by the presiding officer. Johnson indicated he had made contact with the Somerset Superintendent of Schools regarding including the proposed changes to roads and trails on the school campus in the overall discussion of trails in the Somerset area. He reported the superintendent agreed to meet with the group that is forming around this issue.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES – February 13, 2019 – A **motion** (Vanasse, Johnson) to approve the February 13, 2019, minutes as presented. **Carried** with no opposition.

REPORTS - from subcommittees and/or individuals about information gathered for the Board of Directors
Communications Committee – Johnson discussed details of the communications plan moving forward over the short run with emphasis on the Loop Trail Opening Celebration and press releases about Coalition community activities.

Financial Report – Vanasse discussed the March Financial Report. There were no questions.

Healthier Together – Susan Heuiser discussed Healthier Together’s planning for the 2020 – 2022 emphases as well as the ongoing 2019 activities. The Physical Activity team will be under the mental health broader topic starting in 2020. For the remainder of 2019, the emphasis will continue to be getting students active in schools and providing low cost opportunities for families to be safe and active year around. Bike to School, May 8th, is the next activity planned.

Hwy 64 Trail Corridor Committee – Johnson reported a productive, informative discussion about trails and connections along the corridor at the February 27th meeting. The Committee will meet again likely in the fall of 2019.

Bench Project – Susan Heuiser reported that the project is moving into the implementation phase, a contractor to manage the detailed planning and construction of the proposed *gathering space* on the Trail Head across from Houlton Elementary School will likely be on board by April 1st with construction completed optimally by the end of the 2018-2019 Hudson school year on June 11th. If weather and construction issues won’t permit that completion date to come to fruition, then completion is anticipated no later than late July.

Pathways – Susan Heuiser reported discussion regarding 2019 trails and other projects in New Richmond, particularly the planning for WisDOT TAP and WisDNR grant money projects to be constructed in 2020. There was also discussion about the Loop Trail Opening Celebration planning and signs St. Croix County is placing around the County.

River Valley Trails – There was no report presented.

Trail Mapping Project – Lamers discussed his progress on the creation of an on line trails map for St. Croix County. His plan is to send the first live version out to interested parties for comment by March 26th and then to have a site live to the general public by April 16th.

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Others that may be available – Two other topics were discussed as follows.

Nonprofit Training Opportunity – Susan Heuser asked for comments about an opportunity to attend a training session for nonprofit organizations hosted by the River Falls Community Foundation. General consensus was that it would be good if a member of the Coalition attended.

Loop Trail Opening Celebration Committee – Susan Heuser reported the next meeting of this multi-state, multi-jurisdictional group is set for April 4th and requested input from members about what type of activities should be proposed for the Trail Head area of the Loop Trail during the celebration.

ITEMS for discussion and/or action

1. Approval of Communications Committee White Paper - Following discussion of recommendations for approval from committees, a **motion** (Vanasse, Lamers) to approve the Communications Committee's and the Hwy 64 Trails Corridor Committee's 2018 White Papers. **Carried** with no opposition.
2. Approval of Annual Report – Following discussion, a **motion** (Lamers, Vanasse) to approve the Annual Report as presented. **Carried** with no opposition.
3. Authorization to Pay Insurance Payment – Following discussion of a 60% increase in the liability insurance carried by the Coalition, a **motion** (Vanasse, Lamers) to pay the \$400 liability insurance premium. **Carried** with no opposition. Further discussion indicated a request for quotation from other carriers should be undertaken before next year's premium is due.
4. Approval of Funds for Bike Racks – Johnson led the discussion about bike racks/hitches being constructed by the WITC welding class for the Coalition, the cost of the steel for the racks/hitches and the cost of the powder coating by a local retailer. A **motion** (Vanasse, Lamers) to approve up to \$500 for bike rack/hitch construction. **Carried** with no opposition.
5. Fund Raiser *Possibilities*
 - at Oliphant – Vanasse discussed a Coalition fund raiser and raffle that will be held at Oliphant Brewing May 7, 2019, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tickets are available from Coalition Board members.
 - giveBIG United Way Fund Raising Project – Vanasse discussed the association of several Somerset organizations that are joining together to make this a big day for the Somerset Community. Current plans include a banner across Main Street, yard signs around town, participation by local businesses and social media updates. The designated day is April 30, 2019. Donations can continue to be made after that date, however.
 - Loop Trail T-Shirt – Discussion was about several possibilities for T-Shirt sales around the Loop Trail Opening Celebration theme. Proposals will be discussed with coordinating organizations before plans move forward.
 - Mechanism for Online Donations – With the giveBIGscv web site's ability to donate not just on the giveBIGscv day but also year around, Vanasse proposed that this be the method for online donations the Coalition uses. There was general consensus supporting this proposal among the members present.
6. Co-ordination of Somerset Trail Planning – Vanasse is planning a meeting in early April with the Village of Somerset and the School District to discuss how best to plan a coordinated trail system in the Somerset area. Johnson and the Superintendent of schools will receive an invitation with later meetings to include the Town of Somerset as well.

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7. Annual Meeting Planning – Susan Heuser reported that Glover Park in the Town of Troy is reserved for the 2019 Annual Meeting. Brunch, the meeting and possibly a bike ride dependent on the weather are planned.
8. Others – Not other items were discussed.
9. Set next meeting date – April 3 or 10, 2019 – The **next meeting** was set for **April 3, 2019**.

ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD of DIRECTORS AGENDA – *giveBIGscv*, Oliphant Fund Raiser, Somerset Trail Coordination Planning, Loop Trail T-Shirts, Annual Meeting Planning

ITEMS FOR NEXT COALITION AGENDA – Annual Meeting Agenda

ADJOURNMENT – A **motion** (Vanasse, Lamers) to adjourn. **Carried** at ~ 7:45 p.m. with no opposition.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Heuser, Secretary