River and Trails Task Force Minutes
Monday, November 1, 2021
Virtual Meeting

Present: Jon Lewis, Jim Wilcox, Sandra Black, Nancy Hagen, Joni Dean, Larry Liebmann, Jim Killian, Council Person Rachel Venegas, Dan Glynn.
Guests: Dan Hanson, Sid Boersma and unknown caller.

CALL TO ORDER

1. The meeting was called to order by Sandra at 1730.
2. Approval of September 13, 2021 Minutes: With the exception of adding Phil Caravello to the attendance roster, the minutes were approved by Sandra with a second by Jim W. Carried.
3. Communications:
   a. There is funding for a bike repair station, to be housed at the City Hall. Dan explained that it is composed of a bike stand with tools to use that are free along with an industrial bicycle pump. The Wisconsin Bike Federation was also joined.
   b. Virgin Lake Trail: Grant options are moving forward with a DNR Trail Grant Program grant. This will be the new section to the north and west. No boardwalk is reported to be needed. Dan will apply for a Wisconsin DOT grant with funding based on a sliding scale where 66% is covered and the city would pay 34%. This is due in January.
   c. The group again discussed needed easements along the trail by the hospital and Cooper's Causeway with property owners on Ridge Street. Jon has not connected with Larry Mitbo about the waterfront properties.
   d. There was a concern at the last meeting about Terry Kahl Plumbing making the trail accessible all year round and an agreement was reached.

OLD BUSINESS

4. Yahara River Park Update: Dan shared the landscaping plan with trees approved the Stoughton arborists along with seating areas. This will start in the 2022 construction season. The walkway is 10 feet white with plain concrete and also stamped concrete. The budget includes signage. The plan also shows the pedestrian bridge which will be started in 2022. Dan shared a letter from DNR approving $239,200 assuming the land meets all criteria. He also discussed another potential federal government grant.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Interpretive Signs: There is $5000 budgeted for signage. Nancy, Sandra and Joni will meet to put something together for Amundson. The Virgin Lake Trail signage is already budgeted.

6. Future Agenda Items:
    a. Jim K. was recently on the trail where he noticed visitors sitting on the benches near the osprey nest and they commented to him about the nice trail.
    b. Nancy mentioned tree roots pushing up the asphalt on the north trail by the Industrial Park. This will need to be evaluated and addressed. This has been potentially programmed for CIP in 2025 to be asphalted.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Sandra at 1801 with a motion by Jim L. and a second by Nancy. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joni Dean