River and Trails Task Force Minutes
Monday, September 14, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present: Jim Wilcox, Sandra Black, Nancy Hagen, Joni Dean, Larry Liebmann, Ralph Erickson, Andrew Hoffman, Council Person Phil Caravello, Dan Glynn.
Guests: Darren Marsh, Alex DeSmidt, Chris James.

CALL TO ORDER

1. Call to order: Sandra called the meeting to order at 1730.
2. July 6, 2020 Minutes: Approved by Sandra with a second by Nancy. Carried.
3. Communications: Nancy brought up the trail site starting at Page Street and parallel to County B, with connections to Marie Drive on the other side to the school. Dan reported that the City would like to see the whole plan before further discussion.

   Division Street Park was discussed where an area of plantings appeared to have been sprayed. Dan sent a letter to the neighbors near the park to explain the grant funding for the plants and asking them to call the police if they see any further damage to the plantings. Sandra asked that the City plan to mow the plantings in the area in the fall. Consider signage for the park to explain the plantings.

   Nancy mentioned improving the signage at the pedestrian bridge as some are looking ragged. This could be a potential Eagle Scout project and Dan is working with the Scouts and will add this to their list.

   Dan shared the Bjoin Park improvement project, including a map of the changes in the park and trail access.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Dane County Trail Projects: Darren Marsh, as the Madison City Parks Director, discussed a trail update along with two colleagues. Chris discussed Phase 2, the Lower Yahara River Trail and shared connections on a map. Phase 1 was completed in 2017 and Phase 2 has been started from Fish Camp to Williams Drive. This phase will avoid archeological sites. Chris discussed the status and next steps. There will be an upcoming virtual public education meeting where the same information will be shared. After this phase is complete, the next one is LaFollette Park to Viking Park. Alex shared the Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan. He also discussed the improvement of accessible piers and public shoreline opportunities and shared the sites on a map with updated fishing piers at Fish Camp and Babcock County Parks. Darren then provided some updates for parks around the Stoughton area.
5. City of Stoughton Trail Projects: Dan shared information on the upcoming phases of the master plan for Stoughton with a slide show.

6. Future Agenda Items: Signage for Business Park North trail site. Dan will find out in the next day about the DOT Grant funding.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 1824 by Nancy, with a second by Andrew. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Joni Dean