

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

Via Zoom – March 10, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

*Italics indicated item added after Agenda was published.*

**CALL TO ORDER** – André Johnson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at ~ 6:35 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE** – The agenda was posted at the Town of Somerset and the Village of Somerset at their respective Town Halls and on the Trails Coalition web site.

**ROLL CALL** - Board members present were Mark Gherty, Susan Heuiser, André Johnson, Kyle Lindstrom, Paul McGinnis and Mark Vanasse. Board members absent were Pam Kaiser and Dave Mandel, as well as Andrew Lamers, Alternate. Sarah Hagar, Ben Heuiser, Sharon Keiser, Janet Lindstrom, Jim Pierson, Town of Richmond and Tim Witzmann, Town of Somerset (after 7:00 p.m.) were also present.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – A **motion** (Gherty, McGinnis) to approve 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. There was no public comment.

**APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES** – February 10, 2021 – A **motion** (Gherty, Kyle Lindstrom) to approve the minutes as presented. **Carried** with no opposition.

**REPORTS** - from subcommittees and/or individuals about information gathered for the Board of Directors  
Communications Committee – Gherty indicated work on the Lake Mallalieu Friends Group formation that would be discussed later in the agenda.

Financial Report – Vanasse presented the financial specifics for January and February of 2021. There were no questions.

Healthier Together – McGinnis indicated this Committee is a very active one focused on the large picture of mental health. The backpack programs has received donations from both Pierce and St. Croix Counties of half priced county park passes for the 2021 season for the backpacks. Some data about how the backpacks are used is being sought from the 24 librarians in order to add new resources if needed. In addition, Carpenter Nature Center is building a new visitors center on the Wisconsin side of the park that includes many nature-based opportunities. McGinnis indicated all these references to outdoor activities contribute to preventing mental health issues in addition to being a part of the treatment for mental health issues as well as a factor in overall wellness. Lastly, St. Croix County is going to begin referencing the Healthier Together material on the parks page of their web site.

Hwy 64 Trail Corridor Committee – Susan Heuiser reported lots of activity along the corridor and a meeting date under consideration for late spring.

Pathways – Susan Heuiser reported there was no meeting in March but projects ongoing as spring and construction season begins in earnest.

Beyond the Loop – Susan Heuiser reported a meeting to determine signage changes in the New Richmond area of the trail so the map/brochure can be updated. This is a coordinated effort between the County and the City of New Richmond related to the significant changes at Doar Prairie and the Nature Center in New Richmond.

Lift and Loop – Plans for the celebration of the opening of the Historic Stillwater Lift Bridge are still in the discussion stage because of pandemic restrictions yet to be defined for late summer.

Board Seats open for Election in 2021 – Susan Heuiser, Johnson and Vanasse have all indicated an interest in staying on the Board. Those three seats will be elected from nominations at the Annual Meeting in April.

Others that may be available – Susan Heuiser reported three of the six annual filings for the Coalition are completed (IRS, WI Nonprofit and WI Corporate) with the other three to be filled as due dates and forms become available.

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### ITEMS for discussion and/or action

- 1) Authorization to Pay GoDaddy Renewal – Due in April – A **motion** (Vanasse, McGinnis) to authorize \$180 + for GoDaddy renewal. **Carried** with no opposition.
- 2) Authorization to Pay Insurance – due in May – A **motion** (Vanasse, Gherty) to authorize payment of up to \$500 for insurance. **Carried** with no opposition.
- 3) *Authorization to renew Class A and Class B raffle licenses.* A **motion** (Gherty, Vanasse) to renew both types of licenses. **Carried** with no opposition.
- 4) Bike Rack Initiative – Johnson reported that the Osceola Tech Ed class is working on the racks now and would have them ready by late spring. Various Board members will begin contacting locations that wanted a rack to make installation plans. There was discussion about how to recognize the Osceola Tech Ed class, the Daybreak Rotary and the Trails Coalition as these racks are put in place. Board members are seeking more details to be discussed at later meetings.
- 5) Parnell Prairie Possibilities – Johnson reported on a list of possible projects (along with the costs, construction details and maintenance issues that would be required) he had presented to the Town of Somerset Town Board. Possible projects for the parcel included a single-track bike trail, a dog park and a pump track. Witzmann reported the Town is considering placement of a shelter and picnic tables at this property. Discussion also concerned starting a group to support this facility as well as discussion about Boy and Girl Scouts' help with creating the features of the preserve. The Town officials will take it to the joint meeting of the Town and Village Boards for discussion about how to move forward. Several meeting attendees will gather information about possibilities for the next meeting.
- 6) On-Line Donation Options/Progress – The capability to donate to / join the Trails Coalition now has an online option. Several changes to make the online capabilities more user friendly were discussed and will be implemented as possible.
- 7) Lake Mallalieu Basin Friends Group
  - a) Creation of Trails Coalition Subcommittee to Get Friends Group Organized – The Trails Coalition Charter for a subcommittee to begin getting a Friends Group organized was discussed. The group will begin to meet in late spring to get necessary filings made to be a stand-alone entity in the near future.
  - b) Types of Business Organization Systems Possibilities – Keiser discussed several suites of computer applications that are cost friendly to nonprofit organizations. She also discussed how to start with creation of necessary documents for a future Friends Group to make separation of the Friends Group from the Coalition a smooth process.
- 8) Future Trails Projects – Vanasse indicated some discussion of trails connections along the Hwy 64 corridor from the Town of St. Joseph through the Town and Village of Somerset. Witzmann indicated ongoing discussions about ownership of property along the St. Croix National Golf Course property and how to work with all entities to assure trail access through those properties.
- 9) Others – After discussion of date and format, the **Annual Meeting was set for April 24, 2021**, via Zoom.
- 10) Set next meeting date – April 14, 2021 – The next Board of Directors meeting was set for April 14, 2021, via Zoom.

**ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD of DIRECTORS AGENDA** – Approval of Annual Report, Bike Rack Initiative, Parnell Prairie, Charter Approval for Lake Mallalieu Friends Group, Future Trail Projects

**ITEMS FOR NEXT COALITION AGENDA** – Nothing at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT** – A **motion** (Gherty, Vanasse) to adjourn. **Carried** with no opposition at approximately 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Susan Heuser, Secretary