

**MINUTES St. Croix Bike & Ped Trails Coalition Board of Directors
Virtual Meeting via Zoom, May 13, 2020, 6:30 p.m.**

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

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE – There was no public notice of this Zoom meeting.

ROLL CALL – Board members present were Mark Gherty, Susan Heuser, André Johnson, Andrew Lamers, Pam Kaiser, Kyle Lindstrom, and Mark Vanasse. Dave Mandel and Alternate Brandi Popenhagen were absent. Also present were Ben Heuser, Janet Lindstrom and Paul McGinnis.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - A **motion** (Gherty, Kaiser) 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. Gherty introduced McGinnis who had indicated an interest in being a member of the Board of Directors.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES – February 26, 2020 – A **motion** (Lamers, Gherty) to approve the minutes from February 26, 2020, as presented. **Carried with no opposition.**

ITEMS for discussion and/or action

1) Confirmation of email votes. Johnson reviewed the eight votes previously taken via email by Board and Committee members. Following discussion, a **motion** (Gherty, Vanasse) to affirm the votes. **Carried with no opposition.**

a) **Question 1 for the Board** – Quorum is 5

Should the April 8, 2020, Board of Directors meeting be canceled and agenda items for that meeting be considered at the regularly scheduled May 13, 2020, Board of Directors meeting?

Those responding **YES** were Mark Gherty, Susan Heuser, André Johnson, Andrew Lamers, Pam Kaiser, Kyle Lindstrom, Dave Mandel, and Mark Vanasse.

Brandi Popenhagen did not respond.

b) **Question 2 for the Board** – Quorum is 5

Should the April 25, 2020, Annual Meeting be rescheduled?

Those responding **YES** were Mark Gherty, Susan Heuser, André Johnson, Andrew Lamers, Pam Kaiser, Kyle Lindstrom, Dave Mandel, and Mark Vanasse.

Brandi Popenhagen did not respond.

c) **Question 3 for the Communication Committee** – Quorum is 4

Do you recommend approval of the Communication Committee White Paper to the Board of Directors?

Those responding **YES** were Mark Gherty, Susan Heuser, André Johnson, Andrew Lamers, Janet Lindstrom, and Mark Vanasse.

d) **Question 4 for the Board** – Quorum is 5

Do you approve the Communications Committee White Paper for inclusion in the Annual Report?

Those responding **YES** were Mark Gherty, Susan Heuser, André Johnson, Andrew Lamers, Pam Kaiser, Kyle Lindstrom, Dave Mandel, and Mark Vanasse.

Brandi Popenhagen did not respond.

e) **Question 5 for the Board** – Quorum is 5

Do you approve the General Overview of the Annual Report (pages 1-2)?

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Those responding *YES* were Mark Gherty, Susan Heuiser, André Johnson, Andrew Lamers, Pam Kaiser, Kyle Lindstrom, Dave Mandel, and Mark Vanasse.

Brandi Popenhagen did not respond.

f) Question 6 for the Board – Quorum is 5

Do you approve an expenditure for liability insurance in the likely amount of \$400?

Those responding *YES* were Mark Gherty, Susan Heuiser, André Johnson, Andrew Lamers, Pam Kaiser, Kyle Lindstrom, Dave Mandel, and Mark Vanasse.

Brandi Popenhagen did not respond.

g) Question 7 for the Board – Quorum is 5

Would you like to reconsider insurance liability for the Board of Directors?

Those responding *YES* were Mark Gherty, Pam Kaiser, Andrew Lamers, Kyle Lindstrom, Dave Mandel, and Mark Vanasse.

Those responding *NO* were André Johnson and Susan Heuiser.

Brandi Popenhagen did not respond

h) Question 8 for the Board – Quorum is 5

Should the Trails Coalition rejoin the Hudson Chamber of Commerce for \$150 for the next year?

Those responding *YES* were Mark Gherty, Susan Heuiser, André Johnson, Andrew Lamers, Pam Kaiser, Kyle Lindstrom, Dave Mandel, and Mark Vanasse.

Brandi Popenhagen did not respond.

- 2) Consideration of Liability Insurance for Board of Directors Members –** Informational brochures from the insurance company as well as Wisconsin State Statutes regarding board members' liability protection were discussed. Following discussion, a **motion** (Gherty, Kyle Lindstrom) to decline the board member liability coverage but pursue the general liability coverage. **Carried with no opposition.**

- 3) Board Alternate and Member Candidates –** The unusual situations with Board and Alternate members of the Coalition governing board because of cancelled meeting due to the Covid-19 virus were discussed. Following discussion, motions were made regarding 2 alternate seats and 1 Board seat as follows:

- a) A motion** (Gherty, Lamers) to accept the resignation of Lamers from the Board of Directors and then to appoint him to the Alternate member seat that expires in 2022. **Carried with no opposition.**
- b) A motion** (Gherty, Lindstrom) to appoint Popenhagen to the Alternate member seat that expires in 2021. **Carried with no opposition.**
- c) A motion** (Gherty, Kaiser) to appoint McGinnis to the open Board member seat that expires in 2022. **Carried with no opposition.**

An empty Board of Directors seat expiring in 2023 is now available for appointment.

- 4) Fund Raisers –** Vanasse reported various locations he had approached about a Coalition fund raiser but all those options are currently unavailable because of the Covid-19 pandemic. He will reassess the situation in late summer early fall.

- 5) Lens Flare Stillwater –** This walking history of the Loop Trail was reviewed by several members of the Board. There are 3 stopping points on the Wisconsin side of the Loop Trail. General consensus was to put a link to the organization managing this application, LensFlareStillwater.org, on the Coalition web site.

- 6) Participant List for Ongoing Summer Initiatives**

- a) Beyond the Loop –** 1000 brochure/maps are ready to distribute to various business and organizations where bicyclists congregate. Susan Heuiser asked for Board members to help with distribution if they

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knew of appropriate locations. Susan Heuser will contact Mike Polehna again about placing the metal sign in Stillwater.

- b) Lift and Loop – The WI Lift and Loop committee will meet on May 21st to get updates about the August scaled down event plans in Stillwater and determine whether/how to move forward with plans in WI. Johnson, Kaiser, and Janet Lindstrom will assist as needed if the event does occur.
 - c) Summit – General consensus was that this event, a summit detailing the economic advantages of trails, would likely be postponed into 2021 since a large in person gathering was planned for this information sharing meeting of local officials and organizations. No decision has been made at this time.
 - d) Bike Rack Initiative – Johnson will manage the construction process when WITC reopens. McGinnis will contact the Town of Troy about racks at a new pavilion in Glover Park. Gherty has businesses interested in placing racks on their property as follows: Phipps Center for the Arts, Hop & Barrel in Hudson, Big Guys Bar-B-Q in St. Joseph, Town of Hudson and perhaps Town of Troy new park pavilion.
 - e) Others – No other summer initiatives were presented.
- 7) Others – Susan Heuser discussed services and charges for same from *Go Daddy*, the host for the Coalition’s web site. Increased charges need some discussions about services necessary for the Coalition. It was suggested a more in-depth discussion of these issues would be appropriate for the Communications Committee at its next meeting.
- 8) Set next meeting date and Annual Meeting – The next regular meeting of the **Board of Directors** was tentatively scheduled for **September 9, 2020**, dependent on conditions with the Covid-19 virus as summer ensues. Following consideration of various meeting options for the **Annual Meeting**, which is a mandated membership meeting, the previously postponed meeting was rescheduled as a virtual meeting on **Thursday, June 11, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.** Susan Heuser will get an invitation out to the email distribution lists.

REPORTS - from subcommittees and/or individuals about information gathered for the Board of Directors

Communications Committee – This committee last met in January so there was nothing new to report. It will likely be fall before it meets again.

Financial Report – Vanasse discussed the May financial report. There were no questions.

Healthier Together – Susan Heuser indicated a lapse in community-based physical activity health initiatives due to the Covid-19 pandemic. She remains in contact with members of that subgroup but no longer attends the larger governing body focused on mental health.

Hwy 64 Trail Corridor Committee – Susan Heuser reported this committee met March 9, 2020, discussed the MLS application issues and current trail situation in the corridor. They will meet again in the fall of 2020 if there is new information available.

Pathway – Susan Heuser reported this New Richmond committee did not meet in April or May.

Beyond the Loop – See Item 6(a)

Lift and Loop – See Item 6(b).

EDC, et al. Summit Reschedule – See Item 6(c)

Bike Rack Initiative – See Item 6(d)

MLS Grant Implications – A brief discussion about the grant application rubric and its use during the grant evaluation process occurred. St. Croix County received only one grant award despite numerous applications.

Others that may be available – Gherty reported on the Union Pacific Railroad property acquisition current status as follows: **1)** St. Croix County is in discussions with WisDOT about a new review of the legal parameters of the acquisition that *may* conclude that St. Croix County will remain the negotiator in the

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process; **2)** Gherty has spoken with the UP real estate negotiator, a long standing UP employee who has been involved for a number of years in the ownership discussions for this property; and **3)** Gherty is in contact with the City of Hudson staff and elected officials about the property as well as interested residents and organizations in the Hudson area. He will continue to follow the progress of the situation.

ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD of DIRECTORS AGENDA – Election of Coalition Officers, Fund Raiser(s), Lift and Loop, Bike Rack Initiative, Summit, Go Daddy Ownership Issues, Coalition Future

ITEMS FOR NEXT COALITION AGENDA – Election of Board of Director seats held by Gherty, Lamers and Mandel

ADJOURNMENT – A **motion** (Gherty, Lamers) to adjourn. **Carried with no opposition** at ~ 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Heuser, Secretary