

**MINUTES St. Croix Bike & Ped Trails Coalition Board of Directors
Via Zoom - September 8, 2021, 6:30 p.m.**

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

ROLL CALL – Board members present were Mark Gherty, Susan Heuiser, André Johnson, Pam Kaiser, Kyle Lindstrom, Paul McGinnis, and Mark Vanasse. Board member Dave Mandel as well as Alternate Andrew Lamers were absent. Also present were Dan Hansen (until ~ 7:30 p.m.), Jim Heebink (until ~ 7:30 p.m.), Ben Heuiser, Janet Lindstrom, Agnes Ring (until ~ 7:30 p.m.).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – A **motion** (McGinnis, Gherty) 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. Dan Hansen, St. Croix County Supervisor, discussed snow plowing on the Loop Trail with the those present. He detailed work ongoing at the County level to provide funding through the 2022 budget for this job. Those present asked questions about a variety of topics related to this issue to better understand the County’s current policy regarding no snow plowing on the Trail and its amenities, e.g. trailheads and parking lots. Hansen indicated a desire for trail users to attend a Community Development Committee meeting to express their experiences and concerns about winter use of this facility directly to the Committee members. The Coalition agreed to address the attendance issue under Item #5 on the agenda.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES – May 12, 2021 – A **motion** (Lindstrom, McGinnis) to approve the May 12, 2021, minutes. **Carried** with no opposition.

REPORTS - from subcommittees and/or individuals about information gathered for the Board of Directors Communications Committee – Most of these issues were address under the *ITEMS for discussion* on the agenda.

Financial Report – Vanasse reviewed the September financial report. There were no questions.

Healthier Together – This item was not discussed because of time constraints.

Friends of Lake Mallalieu – Gherty discussed meetings with several elected officials in the near future, a plan created for this project, and the late September meeting of the Lake Mallalieu Basin Committee.

Pathways - This item was not discussed because of time constraints.

Beyond the Loop - This item was not discussed because of time constraints.

Lift and Loop - This item was not discussed because of time constraints.

Bike Rack Initiative - This item was not discussed because of time constraints.

Others that may be available – No other items were presented.

ITEMS for discussion and/or action

1. Membership Fees and Ramifications – Vanasse proposed to solicit more memberships in late 2021 and suggested any fee paid in late 2021 could be applied to memberships in 2022. A **motion** (Vanasse, Gherty) to apply any membership fees between now and the end of 2021 to membership dues for 2022 as well. **Carried** with no opposition.
2. Renewal of Domain Names – Due in October – Discussion led to a general consensus that the several domain names owned by the Coalition and its web site location be retained to protect the Coalition’s brand. A **motion** (McGinnis, Gherty) to pay the three renewal fees due in October and January. An amendment was proposed (McGinnis, Gherty) to put these renewal issues in the budget approval process. Both the motion and amendment **carried** with no opposition.
3. Nomination for Communication Committee Chairperson – As recommended by the Communications Committee, a **motion** (Johnson, Vanasse) to nominate Tim Witzmann to be the new Communications Committee Chairperson. There were no other nominations. **Carried** with no opposition.

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

Via Zoom - September 8, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

4. Consideration of Recommendation from the Communications Committee to Fund Marketing Material for the Coalition from the General Fund – A recommendation from the Communication Committee to fund professional marketing materials for the Coalition concluded that there were many decisions and cost considerations to be made before action is taken on this topic. Vanasse suggested returning this to the Communications Committee for more detailed discussion and proposals for consideration. That necessitated the scheduling of a **Communications Committee meeting on October 4, 2021.**
5. Consideration of Recommendation from the Communications Committee about Loop Trail Winter Plowing and Parking Fees – Discussion generally followed the various topics related to the discussion with Dan Hansen and how best to get information to decision makers at the County about the Loop Trail snow plowing issue. Ultimately it was decided to send messages via email distribution lists and Facebook posts to invite trail users to express their opinions at the September 16, 2021, Community Development Committee meeting. In addition, the Coalition would forward a packet of information gathered about this topic to the Community Development Committee and staff prior to the meeting.
6. Future Focus of Coalition Efforts - This item was not discussed because of time constraints.
7. Beyond the Loop Signage – Discussion was about whether to add more metal signs at a cost of ~\$30 each to Town road locations along the path. Several locations were discussed. The conclusion was that discussion with the various local units of government would need to be undertaken before ordering signs was practical. Heebink will check in with New Richmond. Other locations discussed were in Town and Village of Somerset. Funds are already allotted for Beyond the Loop issues.
8. Parnell Prairie - This item was not discussed because of time constraints.
9. Others – Kaiser indicated she is in contact with organizers of a Fat Tire event at the New Richmond Golf Course on January 28th, 29th and 30th, 2022. They will include her in the meetings about what volunteer assistance might be needed and the Coalition members will respond with assistance as they can. This project will be placed on the ongoing projects list for the Coalition.
10. Set next meeting date – October 13, 2021 or Other – The **next meeting** was set for **October 13, 2021**, at 6:30 p.m. via *Zoom*.

ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD of DIRECTORS AGENDA – Bike Actions in Troy, Marketing Plan Recommendations, Loop Trail Snowplowing, Future Focus of Coalition Efforts, Parnell Prairie

ITEMS FOR NEXT COALITION AGENDA – None presented at this time.

ADJOURNMENT – A **motion** (Lindstrom, Kaiser) to adjourn. **Carried** with no opposition at ~ 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Heuiser, Secretary