

## MINUTES St. Croix Bike & Ped Trails Coalition Communications Committee

Via Zoom - May 3, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

*Items in Italics were added after the Agenda was Published*

**CALL TO ORDER** - Mark Gherty, Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order ~ 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 Halls and on the Trails Coalition web site.

**ROLL CALL** - Committee members present were Mark Gherty, Susan Heuiser, André Johnson and Janet Lindstrom. Committee members Andrew Lamers, Mark Vanasse and Tim Witzmann were absent. Ben Heuiser was also present.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – A **motion** (Lindstrom, Johnson) 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. There were no comments.

**APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES** – April 5, 2021 – A **motion** (Johnson, Lindstrom) to approve the April 5, 2021, minutes. **Carried** with no opposition.

**REPORTS** - from individuals about information gathered for the committee – Susan Heuiser reported the bike repair station located at New Richmond’s Friday Library and jointly financed by the Coalition and the New Richmond Pathway organization is in place. The Librarian is hoping to sponsor an event that demonstrates how to use a bike repair station in the near future and is looking for demonstration volunteers. Johnson volunteered and Susan Heuiser will send his contact information to the Librarian.

### ITEMS for discussion and/or action

1. New Richmond’s Friday Library Facebook Video – Johnson is in contact with the Pathway representative who will participate in this outreach video and the Librarian who will manage the taping. The interview will be available viewing on May 18, 2021.
2. Friends of Lake Mallalieu Basin Organization – Gherty reported the initial, invitation only meeting of the Lake Mallalieu Basin Committee was set for the following morning, May 4<sup>th</sup>. He indicated the Committee is being formed specifically to create a separate Friends Group for the basin area. He also indicated that one of the principles of the organization is not to include any individual and/or their immediate family members on the governing body of either the Committee or the ultimate friends group that will be created who have decision making power over the area’s plans. That principle was adopted in order to avoid any semblance of conflict-of-interest issues about this group’s formation. He went on to say that all individuals will be included in any meetings they choose to attend and can participate in the discussions about plans for the basin area. He then provided details regarding the 8 members who have been invited to join the Committee. Ultimately, a **motion** (Lindstrom, Johnson) to recommend that the Board of Directors approve all the people Mark mentioned to start the Committee. **Carried** with no opposition.
3. Loop Trail Winter Snow Plowing – The discussion here focused first on why St. Croix County had an increase in sales tax revenue during a pandemic year. The second topic was methods of getting information about this issue (or any others) to decision makers at the governmental level. Suggestions were first, to create a pamphlet about the snowplowing issue to be distributed at the Loop Trail in the fall with information about how trail users can contact decision makers and second, to attend a County meeting where individuals could speak to County Board members, perhaps inviting a representative from the Stillwater area to detail how the MN side of the Loop Trail is plowed.
4. Bike Rack Placement – Johnson indicated a school year end date to pick up the racks and a final amount that can be paid then.

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5. Bridge the Valley Bike Ride – Those who have spoken to the Stillwater Rotary people organizing this ride feel that those organizers will get in touch with the Coalition if they need further input.
6. American Rescue Plan – A document created by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau of Wisconsin explaining provisions of the stimulus package, the American Rescue Plan Act 2021, was discussed. This legislation has passed the U.S. Congress and provides moneys to every County, City, Town and Village in the United States for projects to be completed by end of year 2024. The federal money will be distributed by states and each state will promulgated rules about accessing those moneys. The report defines approximate amounts to be allocated to each local unit of government – all of which are significant. The document was forwarded to Board members and others to send on to members of local units of government to make sure they know about the funds. Next steps are waiting for state definitions. The funds should be available in 2021.
7. Other(s) – No other topics were presented.
8. Set next meeting date – Late August or Early September – The **next meeting** was set for **August 30, 2021**.

### ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD of DIRECTORS AGENDA

### ITEMS FOR NEXT COALITION AGENDA

### ITEMS FOR NEXT COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE AGENDA

**ADJOURNMENT** – A **motion** (Johnson, Lindstrom) to adjourn. **Carried** with no opposition at ~ 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Heuser, Secretary