

RPA 1 Transportation Enhancement Committee

MINUTES: May 28, 2015

Present: Rod Marlatt, Sheryl Struthers, Elaine Govern, Harold Chapman, Craig Fencil, Jim Janett, Valerie Reinke, Barb Schroeder, Harlan Satrom, Mallory Marlatt, Jenna Pollock and Karla Organist

1. Meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by chair, Rod Marlatt
2. Introductions of new members were made: Valerie Reinke is the new economic development director of Allamakee County and is replacing Laura Olson; and Jenna Pollock is the new conservation director of Clayton County and is replacing Tim Engelhardt
3. Motion to approve the agenda was made by Struthers, second by Janett, all approved
4. Motion to approve the minutes from March 26, 2015 was made by Schroeder, seconded by Struthers, all approved.
5. County Updates:
 - a. Allamakee County: Interpretive Center is moving along – hope to have the project let and awarded by September 17th
 - b. Clayton County: Jenna Pollock has started and is quickly getting up to speed. They are working with landowners on the Motor Mill trail and will be requesting an extension from the DOT.
 - c. Fayette County: LIDAR survey has been completed for the TRRC trail from Gilbertson to the Clayton County line.
 - d. Howard County: Reported that the last CAT meeting went well. With the ROW acquisition done, they were given a three year extension to complete the construction.
 - e. Winneshiek County: Freeport Trail is underway (this is part of the TIGER grant); the first easement has been purchased for the Dry Run Trail.
 - f. Scenic Byways: Starting the process to complete an interpretive master plan – local input will be needed at some point.
 - g. Safe Routes to School: Several bike rodeos have been held, with more scheduled. The bike rack challenge has just ended, with three schools participating this year.
6. A review of the region's TAP fund was reviewed as updated after the project selection meeting. Also, a discussion about the committee's responsibilities was provided for new members.
7. Spring Trail Counting and Survey update
 - a. So far, over 330 surveys have been completed. Barb had tablets at the trail count for entering on the spot. Karla will be putting a press release out to direct people to the survey again this year.
 - b. Summer dates will occur in July. Each county will select one Saturday and one weekday to complete their counts.
8. Floor items
 - a. Discussed the economic impact study – still a possibility for the Winneshiek U of Iowa Sustainability Project – they may select a local economic impact study, and with that as a framework, UERPC may be able to complete the study for the remainder of the trail.
 - b. Shared the vision of the regional trail backbone and subsequent connections with the new committee members
9. The next meeting date will be held in August and will just be a trail counting meeting. Karla will send out a Doodle poll to set up the meeting with the conservation directors and Mallory.
10. Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Satrom, meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.