



City of Rock Falls

Recreational Trail Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: 07-11-2013 Time Meeting Started: 4:00 pm Time Meeting Ended: 5:00 pm

Members		Also Attended	
Pam Erby (Chairperson) - RFT & CM	P	Glen Kuhlemier - City Council & RRDA & CM	P
Jerry Bartlett, Trail Enthusiast & CM	A	Dick Linville - Trail Enthusiast & CM	A
George Bellovics IDNR	P	Bob Schwab - RRDA & CM	P
Robbin Blackert - City Administrator	A	Ben Schwarz - RF Tourism Assist	A
Bethany Bland - RFCC Exec. Dir.	A	Mike Sterba - Coloma Park District	P
Dave Blanton - RFT-Trail Enthusiast CM	A	Mayor William Wescott - City of RF	P
Art Deem - RRDA & CM	P	Tim Wilson - RF Tourism Exec. Director	P
Dave Hahne - IDNR	P		
Tim Keller - RRDA & CM	P		
P - Present A - Absent CM - Charter Member			
Others in Attendance		Others in Attendance	
Eric Arduini - City Clerk	P		
Mark Searing - Code Enforcement / Bldg Inspctor	P		

Ordinance/Topic	Discussion	Plan of Action
1. Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting Called to order at 4:00pm. Meeting was chaired by Pam Erby 	
2. Approve Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kuhlemier made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 13, 2013 meeting as presented. A second was made by Deem. Vote taken was unanimous. 	Motion Carried
3. Recognize Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognized Searing and Arduini 	
4. Organizations/Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coloma Park District - Sterba noted that the Ribbon cutting for the Fountains will be held on July 20th at 10:00 am. The sponsors and family members have all been invited to attend the Ribbon Cutting, each being asked to say a few words. Fountains are in operation from 7 am. until Midnight. The Fountain lights are operational from 9 pm to Midnight The sponsors will be recognized on a plaque that will be mounted on a boulder. Members of the Trail committee are encouraged to attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. 	No Action

<p>Organizations/Partners Cont'd</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>RRDA</u> member, Bob Schwab announced the next Cleanup for the River will be August 17th. They will be meeting at several locations to start the cleanup process. Some will start at Oppold Marina and Arduini Boat Launch. Call a member if you are interested in helping with this project. • They will also have a booth set up at the RF Chamber Summer Splash July 12th and 13th. • Their next meeting is scheduled for July 15th at 7:00 pm at the Arduini Boat Launch at the intersection of E. 2nd Street and Emmons Avenue. Bring a Lawn Chair. • <u>Riverfront Committee</u> member, Mayor Wescott, reported on the last meeting. They reviewed the ITEP Grant possibilities, Potential costs involved and have had the city crew active in getting a temporary walking surface on the trail that will follow along the riverfront. This hopefully will show the community that the trail is in fact happening. • <u>Natural Prairie Committee</u> Chair, Tim Keller, had nothing to report at this time. 	<p>No Action</p> <p>No Action</p> <p>No Report</p>
<p>5 Old Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Gift Brochures</u> that were developed under Cathy Brunner's direction has not had any changes. Tim Wilson reported he has a few and will get more printed. He will edit to ensure the information is current. Tourism will have these available • <u>Master Plan Progress</u> Mayor has no report at this time • <u>Canal Annexation Status</u> Mayor Wescott stated a committee has been established to oversee the Survey to the Citizens of Rock Falls - being done through the 4 billing cycles of the Utility Bills and a second Survey to Sterling and Surrounding Areas for their input as well. The results of the findings will be shared with both this committee and the Rock Falls Tourism Board, who is the financial sponsor of this project. • <u>Trail Maintenance Update</u> given by Mark Searing. The city does the general maintenance and oversees the litter clean up. Amount of trash seems to be up so far this year. He also has the crew reporting any violations they find so the parties can be given a letter to comply. If any one sees anything suspicious, his office will take all calls or concerns. • <u>River Trail - Boat Access</u> - site: W. of Spillway Dam (DNR-City). Mayor Westcott reported the area has some issues 	<p>Will Edit & have reprints made.</p> <p>No Report</p> <p>No Action</p> <p>No Action</p> <p>Mayor- Send a letter of Inquiry</p>

Old Business cont'd	with the depth at the drop off point and the original walk out area has been washed away. Bellovichs shared there is a grants available for boat and canoe access. This access was included in the Greenway Trails plan some time ago. Mayor will send a letter off to the IDNR to seek applications for 2 grants.	requesting 2 grant proposals.
6. Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Directional Signage-(along Canal Trail)</u> A request will be made to eliminate this from the agenda. These signs have all been mounted with the exception of the sign that will be placed under the IL Route 40 bridge that crosses over the canal. This sign is on hold until the bridge work has been completed. A photo of IDNR putting the signs up was taken with the IDNR, City Officials and Ms. Brunner of the RF Tourism, the financial sponsor of the signage. • <u>Location Signage-1st Ave. to sites such as Library, City Hall Parks, Tourism Office, Police/Fire, Chamber, Canal/Trails, Walkway Bridge, High School, Uptown Area.</u> 	<p>Erby will request removal from agenda</p> <p>Erby will request this added to Agenda</p>
7. Phase I & II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Evaluate original Phase I Plans</u> - Review target status • <u>Evaluate original Phase II Plans</u> - Review target status 	<p>No Action</p> <p>No Report</p>
8. New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider additional Signage along trails and boat access ramps in the near future. • Tim Wilson and Mark Searing addressed the dredging project at the canal and Rock River on the North side of the Hennepin locks. IDNR and City of Rock Falls have a different vision and expectations. Discussion to continue. • Proposal for Recreational Trail - will present at the August meeting. A plan to further develop. 	<p>No Action</p> <p>Will contact the Army Corps of Engineers about dredging</p> <p>No Action</p>
9. Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm with a motion by Kuhlemier and seconded by Wescott. Vote taken was unanimous. • The next meeting will be held on August 8 at 4 pm in the north end conference room of City Hall. 	Motion carried

Respectfully submitted

_____, Secretary