



City of Rock Falls Hennepin Canal Trails Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: _____ **Time Meeting Started:** 12:00 **Time Meeting Ended:** 1:01pm

Members		Also Attended	
Alderman Schuneman – Chairman	p	Rod Klecker	p
John Larson	a	George Belovics	p
Larry Spinka	p	Mayor Wescott	p
Mike Sterba	p	Administrator Blackert	p
Paul Hoffmiller – RRDA	p	Clerk Arduini	p
Dave Hahne	p	Inspector Searing	p
Brian Tribley	p		
Tim Keller	p		
Tim Wilson	p		
Also Attended			

Topic	Discussion	Plan of Action
1. Call to Order	Meeting was called to order	Meeting begins at 12:00
2. Approve Minutes of the 11-13-14	Minutes of the 11-13-14 meeting were reviewed by the committee	Minutes approved
3. New Business: a. Canal / Trails Budget Review	Alderman Schuneman reviewed the proposed budget for the Hennepin Canal committee. It was noted that the box scraper that is owned by the city was located at the Coloma Township Cemetery. Mr. Schuneman noted that a lot of the work has been done with volunteers.	Budget approved
b. Introduction of new members – Paul Hoffmiller RRDA	Paul Hoffmiller from the RRDA was introduced to the committee	No action
c. Discussion of next meeting date / location	The next meeting will be held in the Council Chambers on May 14th, 2015	No action
d. Markers along the canal path for emergency personnel.	Bill Milby, Deputy Chief of the Twin City Joint Fire Command explained to the committee that the department has been training along the Sterling trail. They are finding that people when injured may not know where they are at. The Department would like some kind of marking system from the mouth of the feeder canal south to Rt. 172. With out of town people coming to the area to use the canal, the calls along there will be increasing. George Bellovics explained that the IDNR is aware that way finding along the canal is poor, and the current system is a numbering system of tubes and bridges. The IDNR will be working on 4x4 confidence markers on posts so that the system may be seen from the water and the land. Mayor Wescott mentioned the 150 mile race meeting, and how MABAS units will be able to find people along the race trail. Mr. Belovics is also working on making the canal a water trail.	IDNR will report back with a way-finding scheme for the canal
4. RRDA Report	Clerk Arduini announced that the RRDA Canal Clean-up is scheduled for April 18 th at 11:45 behind the Day's Inn. Tim Keller reported that he burned the RRDA Prairie plot at the point of the upper dam on April 2 nd .	No Action
5. Volunteerism Report	Pastor Brian Tribley announced that "Join Hands Day" will be held on May 2 nd , and the group will be working on removing brush between Avenues C and D along the trail. Mr. Tribley reported that they had attempted to paint the bathrooms at the upper dam, but the humidity was making the paint run. He inquired as to whose is responsible for the maintenance of the overlook roof. Mr. Tribley inquired if his group may paint the house on the East side of the canal to help make it match the West side buildings that have been painted. Mr. Tribley asked if the concrete portions of the barns may be painted a grey color to help keep the graffiti covered. Mr. Belovics and Mr. Hahne of the IDNR will contact the historical preservation department to offer ideas for graffiti remediation. Mayor Wescott mentioned that Pastor Belander may have some volunteers for outdoor projects.	The City will inspect the roof at the overlook. IDNR will apply for permission to allow work to be done on the East side building.
6. Committee Member Items	Tim Keller displayed bags of milkweed seed, bergamot seed, and compass plant. Alderman Schuneman inquired as to how someone may make a donation for some of the seeds that he provides. Mark Searing announced that Mary Nelson from the University of Illinois	No Action

	<p>Extension Service will be setting up a storybook trail along the Recreational Trail. Two Boy Scouts are helping build the kiosks for the project. Mr. Searing also stated that the prairie plots will be burned next week.</p> <p>George Belovics informed the committee that the canal will be closed to boat traffic from Rt. 40 North during the rebuild of the bridge. The new bridge will allow for the canal trail to be full width under the new bridge.</p> <p>Mike Sterba reported that the area that was purchased on the west side of the Centennial Park Lake has been getting cleared and cleaned out. His crews have removed 100 tires from the property.</p>	
7. Adjournment	With nothing else for the good of the committee the meeting was adjourned at 1:01pm	Meeting end 1:01pm

Committee Chairman