

Meeting Minutes of the River Trail Commission
(Towns of Cloverland, St. Germain and the City of Eagle River)
Nov. 30, 2022 4:00 PM
Eagle River City Hall 525 E Maple St, Eagle River, WI

1. Meeting called to order at 4:04 PM public present included:

Jeff and Ann Currie - Cloverland
Robin Ginner-Eagle River Administrator
Francine Gough -Supv. Cloverland

Holly Tomlanovitch - Zoom.
Carlton Schroeder - (GHT Sugar Camp)

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2. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
 3. Meeting Posting was verified for all 3 participating municipalities.
 4. Roll Call - **Ron Kressin** (RK), **Joe Spitz** (JJS), **Jim Swenson** (JS) - Chairman. Quorum Present.
 5. No objections were made to taking the agenda in any order at the discretion of Chairman
 6. RK moved to approve the Oct. 26 meeting minutes JJS seconded. Board vote approved the minutes.

7a. Spitz reviewed the few responses received from Cloverland residents as a result of the mailing made to the owners along Old Hwy 70 where the proposed segment one would be developed. One negative was from a person who was actually on the other side of the road (without any reason given). Another negative from someone on Perch Lake Rd. (not even near it). There was one other inquiry requesting more detailed information on the exact location on their property (seemed satisfied after the magnified view sent). J. Currie will visit with a party who asked to be able to talk in person along with his next door neighbor. Jeff will report on the in person conversation at next meeting.

It was also mentioned that it had been posted on Facebook in the Vilas Co. Community page and generated a number of comments, many negative. Many were based on assumptions made without knowledge of the factual proposal presented in the letter. The commission will not get involved with a Facebook discussion but welcomed GHT to help present facts to the group if they wished to.

7b. Maintenance Estimate: Swenson reported, based on and his St. G. contact, the amount of maintenance involved in their trail system. He mentioned that last year it was about 140 man hours for St. G. for the year for the 3 mowings, Billy Goat blower cleaning and storm clearance activity. He will be checking with Woody Albhorn to get the figures for Sayner's portion/activity.

8a. J. Currie discussed the funding targets after adding 20% for the passage of time from the original estimates. GHT is not worrying about Segment 1 costs now because their intention is to stay on the roadway of Old Hwy 70 to begin with. Same with segment 6 because the roadway around the Vilas Co. Fairgrounds could be used. Focusing now on submitting TAP grants for segment 2 & 3. They will be talking with grant administrator for \$3.5 M in grants. At 80/20 would mean \$700K as a funding need for the 20%. Not worrying about segment 4 with bridge at this time as there maybe motorized sport grants that could impact it. Currie reported that GHT has \$700K in their current coffers to support Segment 2&3 grants. So by end of 2023 we could have a reasonable start on having the funding for segments 2&3.

Segment 5 would need \$817 K for funding including, ~ \$200K for easment ROW acquisition. GHT has currently 9 of the property owners with Letters of Understanding (LOU) but 9 more are "iffy" and 4 that are not communicating. Easement acquisition will include compensation for ALL the private easements on Segment 5. They are working on having a real estate sales study done to determine the value per square foot of the easement value. Will be \$3- 4K for the study and another \$20K for MSA detailing each platt survey showing the easement parcel this spring. Also there will be another element for a negotiator to get the easements signed along with any required mortgage releases (bank mortgage sign off) and utility easements and sign offs/en-croachment sign offs. GHT wants to develop a time line for the 2023 activities. Kressin asked if MSA is willing and capable to accomplish this work. Schroeder says they are busy but have the capacity. They have also found a property assessment firm.

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First three steps are for the commission.

- To come to an agreement that the commission will hold the private property easements
 - Agree an attorney to develop all the individual property easement documents. (Who best to work with attorney GHT or Commission.)
 - Agree about the possible cost for the commission to have an errors and omission liability policy.
- Targeting to get these done by end of January. Jim Swenson will contact S. Garbowitz regarding these items.

J. Currie and R. Kressin said that the budget needs to be developed and then the funding method decided.

Discussed the two new Town of Lincoln supervisors and well as the other supervisors to review the River Trail project and to bring them up to speed and try to get them "on board". This would need to include the information. Lincoln will still need to hold the DOT SMA's since it Bill Marshall and Ken Fox. Currie will prepare a possible agenda for the meeting. Decision to be made on who makes the contact for this meeting. SMA agreements will be required by Town of Lincoln for the other (non private) property segments that are in DNR or DOT right of way.

8b. Schroeder mentioned that Platteville students on line presentation from 2-3PM next Tuesday Dec. 6 re: the best bike-ped and motorized traffic to get across 45 near Kwik Trip.

9. There were no communications noted

10. No public comments

11. Next regular meeting was confirmed for Jan. 18, at 4:00 PM at Eagle River City Hall.

12. Motion to adjourn was made and passed at 5:02PM