

Meeting Minutes of the River Trail Commission
(Towns of Cloverland, St. Germain and the City of Eagle River)
July 20, 2023 4:00 PM
Eagle River City Hall 525 E Maple St, Eagle River, WI

1. Meeting called to order at 4:02 PM public present included:

Jeff and Ann Currie - Cloverland	Holly Tomlanovitch - Washington
Robin Ginner -Eagle River Administrator	Tom Tomlanovitch - Washington
Jim Meirers - Lincoln (GHT)	Todd Bierman - Vilas Parks and Rec.
Carlton Schroeder - (GHT Sugar Camp)	Mike Robillard - Zoom
Francine Gough - Cloverland Supervisor	Dan Karamer - Lincoln County Supervisor
Gary Meister - GHT	Alice Kramer - Lincoln Citizen
Karen Margelofsky - Eagle River Revitalization	Chris Nafziger - Tara Lily (Zoom)

2. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Meeting Posting was verified for all 3 participating municipalities.

4. Roll Call - **Jim Swenson** - Chairman, **Joe Spitz** - Cloverland ,**Ron Kressin** Quorum Present.

5. No objections were made to taking the agenda in any order at the discretion of Chairman

6. Swenson motioned to approve the June 15, 2023 meeting minutes, Spitz seconded. Board vote approved the minutes.

7. State of Commission was discussed. Swenson reported that late June the St. G. Board had endorsed being on the commission and had approved the concept of the Commission holding private property easements if necessary. Spitz reported that he had presented to Cloverland board at a well attended meeting the corrections to the safety concern misconceptions elucidate in the Eagle River Council Meeting. He reported that after the presentation that Scott Macoisek read a letter he had prepared to the board and asked for approval by the board. All members except for Spitz voted for it. It stated that Cloverland will not be responsible any costs of maintenance on the trail nor will it sign agreements with the DOT with the current trail plan. Kressin reported that the trail was not discussed at the last council meeting.

8. The route of the trail was discussed. Carlton and Mike? will be looking at alternates north and south of Hwy 70.

9. Safety concerns were discussed with Swenson pointing out that there are no significant differences between the proposed trail and the other parts of Heart of Vilas. Jeff Currie pointed to the fact that the Sheriff Fath letter was based on incorrect information including that it would require three bike crossings across 4 lane sections of highway 70 between Hwy 17 and E.R. A visual representation of the trail through Lincoln showing the distance from the road to the paved trail edge would go a long way to clearing up the misconceptions within some of the public officials. Recent large groups of "road biking groups" riding in groups of 28 along both Hwy 45 coming into ER and Highway 70 going to St. G. were discussed. From discussions at the Farmer's Market GHT booth some welcomed the idea to get off Highway 70 through the Lincoln area as they headed west.

10. Michael Anderson questioned the information regarding the comparison of the maintenance costs for this trail versus the Boulder Junction trail based on the cost per mile of the respective trails. It turned out he gathered the information on a "Vacation Week" article which was confusing. The expense of \$142K in the article was not for 3.3 miles of trail but an additional fraction of a mile that was being fund raised as an extension of those miles to get some additional grant money that had become available.

11. None

12. Public Comments - none other than those interspersed in the discussions.

14. Meeting adjourned at 5:37 PM

15. Next meeting will be August 24, 2023 at Eagle River City Hall