

Non-motorized Trails Committee Minutes

April 5, 2017

1. Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM by Anne Small
2. Roll call: Committee members in attendance were Jim Swenson, Anne Small, Jimmy Vogel, Becky Dunn and Marion Janssen. Also in attendance were Jack Bourgeois, Dennis Dieter and one other member of the St Germain ATV Club and Walter Geist. Committee members not in attendance were Bob Schell and Mary Platner.
3. Anne Small said that she posted the meeting agenda in accordance with the open meeting law before noon on April 4th.
4. Motion to approve agenda made by Jim Swenson, seconded by Jimmy Vogel. Motion carried.
5. No citizen concerns
6. Discussion of ATV and Bike trails in the 50' corridor:

Jack Bourgeois of the St Germain ATV Club discussed his idea to apply for a \$45,000 grant for clearing the trail corridors for both the ATV route and the Bike Trail extension through the 50' corridor and in the 28 acre parcel north of the Town Shop. He said that silent sports trail entities could not apply for this grant because it was funded by the fuel tax and is only for motorized sports. This grant application was due by May 1st, so he said that a decision was needed quickly. In order to apply for this grant he said that the trail should be a 24' wide trail with a split rail fence or other barrier separating the 12' bicycle trail from the 12' ATV trail. He said he would be able to call the 24' trail a multiuse trail for purposes of the grant application, according to his discussion with Jillian Steffes from the DNR. He stated that the individual that they are hiring to do the clearing/brushing of their trail could do the entire 24' and also complete the portion bike trail south of the point at which the ATV and bike trails diverge at the northwest corner of the 28 acre town parcel. He also said that the ATV Club could apply for this grant, even though it is usually only for municipalities or county government. In order to apply, the ATV Club has to show its articles of incorporation and also get a 25 year lease from the town for the trail on the 50' corridor and the 28 acres. Jack stated that he was only suggesting this option and the grant application as a way to help out the silent sports side since their club had enough money to put their portion of trail in place already.

Anne Small explained that the original discussion with the ATV club was that the bike trail and the ATV trail would be separate trails with a 10' natural buffer. She said that this is the preferred layout from the Non-motorized Trail Committee's standpoint. She questioned whether a 24' trail that is divided into two separate uses could truly be considered 'multiuse' since the two users are not on the same trail surface. Anne also stated that the expense of a split rail fence is quite high compared to just leaving the natural buffer. Anne asked Jack if he had a copy of the grant description so that the committee could look at it. He said he did not, but only had a copy of the application itself. She asked him the name of the grant and Jack said he thought it was called State Trails Council (STC) grant.

Anne Small then stated that the Recreational Trails grants she is familiar with require that work on the project that is done prior to the grant award would not count as the matching portion of the

applicant. Jack said that the grant description says that, for this particular grant, work that is done prior to the grant award can go toward the matching portion of the grant.

Jack explained that they want to get their trail in place in time for the opening of the ATV trails in the county on May 1st and that many people had contacted him asking if they would be able to connect with the overall trail system from their home or cottage.

Jimmy Vogel asked if the ATV Club needed the fat bike loop to be reflagged prior to the trail work being done. Dennis Dieter said yes and agreed to go out with Jimmy to reflag that segment of trail.

It was discussed as to whether Anne and Jack should consult with Jillian Steffes about this grant just to get some of the Non-motorized Trail Committee's questions answered. The town board would have the approval for the 25 year lease agreement on the agenda for Monday, April 10 board meeting. This didn't leave much time for further discussion before that meeting.

Due to time constraints on the ATV club's project timetable and the grant application deadline, Anne Small made a motion to approve for recommendation to the Town Board that a 24' multiuse trail be constructed in the 50' corridor consisting of a 12' ATV trail on the east side and a 12' bicycle trail on the west side with a split rail fence divider between and with clearing/brushing work to be done by the ATV Club. Jim Swenson seconded the motion. Motion approved (Marion Janssen was not present for vote – she was on a rescue call). No further discussion.

Anne Small adjourned the meeting at 6:33 PM.