

Meeting Minutes of the River Trail Commission

(Towns of Cloverland, St. Germaine and the City of Eagle River)

Oct 13, 2021 4:00 PM

Eagle River City Hall, 525 E. Maple St. Eagle River 54521

Also available via Zoom

1. Meeting called to order 4:01 PM Public Present included:

Gary Meister (GM) - Eagle River, Carlton Schroeder, Jeff and Ann Currie (Zoom) (JC)- Cloverland, Dan Kramer (Lincoln), Fritz Laeser, Jim Meiers (Lincoln), Francine Gough (FG) -Supv. Cloverland, Robin Ginner Eagle River City Administrator

2. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

4. Roll Call - Present: Joe Spitz (JJS), Ron Kressin (RK), Jim Swenson (JS) - Chairman. Full Board present.

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

6. Minutes from the July 14, 2021 meeting minutes of the RTC had been sent out prior to the meeting. RK moved to approve the minutes, JJS seconded the motion. Board vote approved the minutes.

7a. Budget and Treasurer position. Jim Swenson is also acting as Treasurer for the commission. He reported that our current balance in our checking account is \$2781.85. Eagle River sent in their "dues" on January 19. St. Germain had approved theirs the previous Monday as their 2021 "dues". JJS mentioned Cloverland believes that RTC needs to get actual spending approval in addition to approval of the annual budget. St. G. takes theirs out of the Room Tax money. We reviewed the commission document and noticed that we should be determining an annual budget each year and going to our boards each year for approval of the required contribution. We agreed to set a budget for 2022 and then getting approval from our townships respectively. At the end of the meeting, we also discussed trying to get the RTC commission agendas and minutes posted for the public. JS agreed to see if that was possible for the St. Germain web site.

7b. We discussed getting better support for contributing to agreement for the support of the costs of the eventual Maintenance Agreement. JJS described a meeting that he had with JC for the purpose of discussing the development of a written document that is in the form of a Q&A that will help build support. A draft was presented by JJS of the format, and some examples of the data from US and Canadian studies he had found regarding bicycle and pedestrian injury incidents. As an example, The US Study documented how it disproportionately affects the older age groups. This will be further distributed so it can be worked on as a group effort. JJS volunteered to serve as an "editor" to further the effort. Dan Kramer suggested that a spreadsheet be developed that shows a wide selection of the trails from the Vilas Co. trails. It should show construction date, miles, cost of trail segment, the annual cost of repair over its history. Also, it was mentioned that the Three Eagle Trail keeps a "major event fund" independent of the annual maintenance funds.

8. GHT Reports/recommendation

8a. GM suggested that we all should take a look at the last two miles recently completed as it goes into Phelps to really get a feel for how it would look. He also requested we consider a tour as a board, of the actual proposed route, so we could view it as a group and consider any possible changes in the 2019 study that was done. JC elaborated proposing a presentation review prior, to getting into a bus and then driving the route with various stops. It would include Chad Grundeman (MSA) who did the engineering work on the trail layout. It was agreed to meet at Prince of Peace Church for the presentation. The group agreed to meet at 12:30 on Oct. 26. We need to post the meeting with a statement that it is "a fact gathering meeting but no business will be conducted nor will any decisions be made".

Dan Kramer agreed to try to get a board member from the town of Lincoln to attend.

8b. Bike Trail Easements – no updates

8c. Engineering Report – no updates

8d. FORT update - 9 new members recruited, now 70 strong. Ann Morrissey is coordinator.

9. Letters and communication. None

10. Public Comments. None

Next meeting date agreed: Jan 26, 4:00PM ER City Hall.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:14 PM

Meeting minutes submitted by Joe Spitz