



Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2020 – Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Lindsey Weaver, Bryan Pike, Andy Rangen, Chuck Carlson, Jenny Smith, Eric Roberts, Randy Harrison, Wade Miller, Todd Holman, Steve Fisher, Gary Tibbetts.

Submitted by: Bryan Pike

1. **Call to order:** Lindsey called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.
2. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes from last meeting:** The agenda and last month's minutes were approved.
3. **Secretary Report:** No report other than minutes being approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** 990EZ needs to be filed after January 1, 2021.
5. **Reports/Discussion:** A warm welcome was given Steve Fisher who joined the meeting for the first time.
Todd Holman: Todd brought a potential concept to the group concerning the Southern Terminus of the Cuyuna Lakes State Trail. Currently the west terminus of the CLST is the DNR Paul Bunyan Trail parking lot near the Northland Arboretum. Todd's idea is to consider land acquisition and trail development opportunities on the east side of the Mississippi River where the current Rotary Park is located and areas south of Buffalo Hills in southwest Brainerd. Long term goal is to not have trail users negotiate the busy highway crossing at the signal on Highway 371 at College Drive particularly if trail users destination is Crow Wing State Park and future connections to the Veterans State Trail. A sub-committee was suggested to further identify opportunities and to include the Rotary Club and the Sentinel Landscape Team as members of the group.
Wade Miller: As part of trail concept discussions Wade talked about the east Brainerd route city staff have been working on and a potential route on the south side of the BNSF railroad shop buildings and heading east to 28th Street. This less desirable route is being discussed and planned due to railroad authorities not allowing to-date a bike and pedestrian crossing on 13th street/Co. Rd. 45.
NPS Update—No update. Still waiting to hear back from the NPS on the community outreach application.
Planning and Design—Chuck has been talking to Nick (lead contact and maintenance person at Cuyuna Rec. Area) concerning single track trail development at the Sagamore Unit and the planned rally center area. Bringing the CLST into this planned development site on the far northeast corner of the Sagamore Unit should work well Nick suggested and best coordinated with those responsible for this planning. It was mentioned to get Steve Hennessy and Trent Lugar from the DNR involved with this planning effort.
Conceptual Route—Chuck reported that the meeting he and Bryan had with **Joshua Rebennack** on the conceptual route was intriguing and Joshua had a good grasp on the overall concept. Most of the trail route was laid out in relative detail paying close attention to slope and minimizing environmental impacts. Maintaining no more than a 5-6% slope or grade may be the most challenging in several areas. Continuing to work with Joshua is a top priority for a conceptual route that can be submitted to the DNR for their review and feedback. It was suggested by Wade that following a conceptual route that has been reviewed by the DNR and modified as necessary, a meeting or discussion with Crow Wing County should be the first step in the process of getting the county to review the route and work collaboratively with the county on a trail approval process on the county managed land that runs from the west side of the Sagamore Unit to the airport property. Working with the private landowners in Riverton is ongoing. Meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.
6. Next Meeting Date (2nd Tuesday of each month): 5-6 pm, Tues, January 12, 2021