



## City of Rock Falls Hennepin Canal - Trails Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date: 5-8-2014**

**Time Meeting Started: 12:00**

**Time Meeting Ended: 1:40**

Members		Also Attended	
Alderman Schuneman – Chairman	P	Administrator Blackert	P
Mark Searing	P	Clerk Arduini	P
Dave Blanton	P		
Tim Wilson	P		
Brian Tribley	P		
John Larson	P		
Also Attended			

Topic	Discussion	Plan of Action
1. Call to Order	Meeting was called to order at 12:00 Noon	Meetings Begin at 12:00pm
2. Approve Minute – Hennepin Canal Committee April 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	The committee reviewed the minutes	Minutes approved
3. Audience item	Mr. Frank Schier owner of the Rock River Times, and spokesman for the RRTI distributed information about the Rock River to the committee. He gave a presentation to the committee about the Rock River Trail Initiative. He stated that the Rock River is 320 miles long, travels through 11 counties, and has 33 municipalities along it. He informed the committee that around May 20 <sup>th</sup> there will be 3 college kids arriving to Rock Falls on their way to canoe the entire length of the Rock River, and in the future there will be many more canoe travelers. He stated that the Rock River Scenic and Historic Route is a River Trail, Road Trail, and Bike Route. He spoke to the committee about how to obtain grants for our boat launches, and urged to use the RRTI if the city needs any help.	No action
3. Prairie Plat Information – Mark Searing	Inspector Searing informed the committee that on May 14 <sup>th</sup> , the prairie plats will be planted at the sewer department, and the bike trail.	No action
4. New business – Report of the Hennepin Canal Cleanup	Tim Wilson from the Tourism office reported that the Volontourism event had 33 participants. They picked up trash along the river, power washed at the Canal locks, and stained the walk bridges at Centennial Park. Clerk Arduini briefly reported on the RRDA Annual Canal Cleanup. Dave Hahne from the IDNR reported that the 70 volunteers removed around 5 ½ yards of trash from along the trail. He also reported that the work being done south of Route 40 is to clean out a drainage ditch.	No Action
5. RRDA report	Clerk Arduini informed the committee that the next RRDA meeting is to be held at the Arduini Boat launch At 7:00pm on May 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	No action
6. Volunteerism Report	Tim Wilson explained that there are Volunteerism events scheduled for every month this summer. He also explained that volunteerism.org is a national organization, and more information can be found the website.	No action
7. Committee member items	Chairman Jim Schuneman introduced Mr. Keith Newell, and Mr. Newell spoke to the committee about the need for an e-book to be published illustrating the area's beauty in photographs, and the need for a place for photographers to put their pictures. He encourages people to have fun with the resources that we have.	No action
	Pastor Brian Tribley asked the committee for projects to work on, and places to clean up. His group will be pressure washing again on May 17 <sup>th</sup> , and 18 <sup>th</sup> .	No Action
	Mr. John Larson spoke about the Guinness World Record being broken at Nims Park for Disc Golf holes in 24 hours. He mentioned that this course maybe used in the future for other record attempts.	No Action

	Chairman Schuneman inquired about having a portage plan for canoes, and kayaks.	The city will discuss a plan, and Adm. Blackert will report back.
	Chairman Schuneman inquired about the annexation and lease status, and if the city had met with the IDNR for negotiations. Mr. Hahne from the IDNR stated that the paperwork is all still in Springfield, and there is now only one person handling all of the IDNR lease agreements for the state.	No action
	Mr. Schuneman stated that he had made contact with Jeff Moore, and Bart Lutz from Moore Tires. They would like to be more involved with cleanup efforts along the canal	Clerk Arduini will contact Mr. Moore for more details.

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Committee Chairman