



City of Rock Falls Hennepin Canal Trails Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 7/10/2014

Time Meeting Started: 12:00

Time Meeting Ended: 1:15

Members		Also Attended	
Alderman Schuneman – Chairman	P	Fred Johnson	P
John Larson	A	David Druin	P
Larry Spinka	P	Mayor Wescott	P
Mike Sterba	P	Administrator Blackert	P
Dave Blanton – RRDA	P	Clerk Arduini	P
Dave Hahne	P	Inspector Searing	P
Brian Tribley	P		
Tim Keller	A		
Tim Wilson	A		
Also Attended			

Topic	Discussion	Plan of Action
1. Call to Order	Meeting was called to order at 12:00	Meeting begins 12:00
2. Approve Minutes of the May 8 th , 2014	The committee reviewed the minutes of the May 8 th meeting	Minutes Approved
3. Unfinished Business:		
a. Update of the Canal Lease with IDNR	Mr. Hahne stated that the IDNR is still working on it there are 20 legal descriptions that a team from Springfield is getting together. Mayor Wescott inquired if meetings about the annexation agreement will occur between the City, and IDNR after the legal descriptions are done. Adm. Blackert inquired if the discussions of the lease agreement could be started sooner.	Tabled
4. Volunteerism Report	Brian Tribley gave a report on the Firehouse of God Ministries' recent projects. His group is half way through painting the benches. He will need more brown paint to finish. He also requests that primer be used to repaint the barn along the towpath. He had a professional painter recommend a primer product, and the painter will be there to help spray the barn. They are planning on getting the barn painted before it gets cold. His crews have also pressure washed the concrete building, and they are planning on doing towpath repairs with the help of the National Guard for their August voluntourism project. The group plans on saw cutting bad spots on Saturday, and having the National Guard help with removing the material on Sunday. Firehouse ministries will then need a roller, and truck or hot patch buggy from the Street Department to replace the material removed with blacktop.	Clerk Arduini will contact Bob Schwab about the brown paint, and Mr. Tribley will tell Dave Hahne form the IDNR the correct primer.
	Clerk Arduini reported that a group from Moore Tires volunteered a couple of weeks prior to clean up the canal of trash from Route 30 Southwest to Route 40.	
5. New Business		
a. Discussion of the Prairie and Wildlife trail.	<p>Alderman Schuneman shared a PowerPoint presentation showing the areas of prairie grass plots, and the recreational trail. The prairie grass plot is an open canvas, and he urges members to make a wish list of ideas for a master plan for the trail. There was much discussion about the way that the brush is cleared along the ComEd easement through town. The city will try to work with ComEd on a solution to help beautify the easement with prairie grass, and help keep ComEd's maintenance cost down. Dave Blanton stated that excelon would be the company that takes care of the right of way.</p> <p>Dave Hahne was asked about the ramp from Linville crossing to the Canal towpath, and he stated that he is waiting for surveyors to come up from Springfield, and determine exactly where the property lines are to construct an ADA ramp. The trail through the city from Wallingford Park to East 5th Street is being filled with litter from neighbors along the trail. The Street department will notify CSO of possible violations.</p>	

	Clerk Arduini gave a brief description of the prairie plat in Oregon, IL. Alderman Schuneman reported that cars are travelling down the path at McNeil Rd., and making it a shortcut to Industrial park. Alderman Shuneman would like to see the trail at McNeil Rd, and Avenue D blocked to not allow any traffic.	
Committee Member Items	Inspector Searing inquired about the possible funding of a maintenance fund for the Arduini boat launch. He thought that perhaps a fee system could be implemented at the boat launch to help pay for future repairs, and dredging. Dave Hahne of the IDNR stated that because federal funds were used for the construction of the boat launch, the City would not be allowed to charge for access.	

Committee Chairman