

Milwaukee County Trails Council

Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2012

- ❑ Attendance: Jeff Weiss, Jim Marks, Ann Brummitt, Melissa Cook, Keith Holt, Cheri Briscoe, Mike Bonk, Jim Doornek
- ❑ Approval of Minutes: **Approved**
- ❑ Previous items
 - Update on volunteers for Board / Voting Members
Confirmed: Harold Schmidt, Marty Weigel, Cheri Briscoe, Chris Squires, Melissa Cook, Jim Marks, Keith Holt, Ramsey Radakovich, Jeff Weiss, Chris Kegel, Brian Russart, Mike Bonk
 - Work to incorporate representatives from local municipalities
 - Comments on “Forked Aster Trail System Handbook”. **None at this time – Continue to review and prepare for comments next meeting. Looking to have trails council approval/support once board is established.**
 - Comment on Draft of New Bylaws – **Not ready for review. A Mission statement was offered. “The mission of the Milwaukee County Trails Council shall be to advise and support staff efforts to coordinate a Milwaukee County recreational and transportation trail system for the public, to advocate for adequate funding for safe, interesting, and efficient trails, to educate the public about the economic value of the trail system, and to promote integrated usage of the trails with other modes of transportation and to help inform stakeholders.” Things that should be incorporated to mission statement are accessibility and to maintain ecological diversity.**
 - “Milwaukee By Bike” update – reprint of 2011 Maps are in and available
 - Oak Leaf Discovery Tour - 2,000 (out of 3,000) sold. Planning on the OLDT again for 2013 and looking to incorporate new sites. Closing event Sept 15th at Estabrook Park from 11 am – 2pm.
- ❑ New Items
 - Review draft “Off Road Bicycling Designation Procedures”. **Initial comments are positive. Positive points are clarity and understanding the process. Should be applied to all proposed trails, possibly all projects with the parks.**
 - Potential New Designs for Oak Leaf Trail Signs. **The overall consensus that new sign design was not necessary, and that the original brand should be maintained. To avoid current problems of fading, new signs**

should be purchased with higher quality materials. Way finding seems to be the main issue and things to be considered are consistent sign placements on structures, sign locations, trail /asphalt markings, kiosks, and maps. Refer to other city for ideas. An example could be the City of Indianapolis

- Federal Government Items
 - 2 year bill will mean less money for state to determine use for trails
 - No Rails to Trails
 - Larger need for bridges
 - Bike and Snowmobile groups should partner in the lobbying efforts
 - New Crystal Ridge Proposal needs to have a biking needs incorporated into its plans.
 - Trail Con – August 17th and 18th – Langlade County Fairgrounds - Dirt and snow technologies for all trail development.
 - The Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Club hosted the International Snowmobile Congress in Green Bay June 6,7, and 8th.
 - *Snowmobile Clubs are great examples for trail group advocacy.
- Action items for next meeting
 - Bylaws
 - Confirm Board Members
 - Accept comments on “Forked Aster Trail Hiking System Handbook” and “Off Road Bicycling Designation Procedure”
 - Announcements
 - City of Milwaukee is moving forward with the filling of Bike and Pedestrian Coordinator.
 - Well City Milwaukee Member Orientation & Mentor Meeting on October 4th. An event by the Wellness Council of Wisconsin, which supports bike and park trails. A Non-profit organization dedicated to business involvement in improving health in their employees.
 - Dean of UW-Milwaukee new School of Public Health was involved in a bike ride with representatives of the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County Parks, sponsored by Keith Holt. The focus was to introduce Dean and promote Milwaukee as a real life classroom to mutually benefit students and community. Stewardship to wellness.
- Next Meeting:
 - September 13, 2012 10:00 AM
 - Parks Administration Building
9480 Watertown Plank Rd
Wawautosa, WI 53226