

Milwaukee County Trails Council

Meeting Minutes

November 8th, 2012

- ❑ Attendance: Mike Bonk, Mike Loughran, Melissa Cook, Jeff Weiss, Sophia Steck, Jeremy Hinds, Ramsey Radakovich, Jessica Binder, Jim Marks, Harold Schmidt, Cheri Briscoe
- ❑ Approval of Minutes
 - Changes made to first bullet on the Comments to “Forked Aster Trail System Comments”
- ❑ Previous items:
 - Status of Council Member Appointment –
 - Members appointed by County Board Chairwoman – Under consideration
 - ❑ Supervisor Steve Taylor
 - ❑ Keith Holt
 - Members appointed by County Executive – Under consideration
 - ❑ Chris Kegel
 - ❑ Brian Russart
 - ❑ Ramsey Radakovich
 - ❑ Mike Bonk
 - ❑ Jill Organ
 - Jim Keegan – Interim Parks Director
 - DNR Representative – Melissa Cook
 - DOT Representative – Chris Squires
 - The Park People – Cheri Briscoe
 - Bike Fed – Harold Schmidt
 - (Metro/IMBA) – Marty Weigel
 - Wisconsin Walkers – Jeff Weiss
 - City of Milwaukee – Vacant Bike and Pedestrian Coordinator
 - Advisory Members
 - ❑ Jim Marks
 - ❑ Angie Tornes
 - Comments on “Forked Aster Trail System Handbook”
 - Recommendations made are to include “Hiking”, in title. To read “Forked Aster Hiking Trail System Handbook”.
 - No other comments this meeting.
 - Closing the opportunity for comments for this draft and will proceed on final draft.
 - Comments on Off-Road Bicycling Designation Procedures
 - The Milwaukee County Parks receives a consistent request for the creation of Off Road Biking Trails. These procedures are being formalized to guide these request in a transparent manor while adhering to the Off-Road Bicycling Ordinance.
 - Questions

1. Does the title need to be changed? Possible “Trail Designation Procedures” or “Designation Procedures”. Could be all-inclusive, talking about all recreational activities (biking, hiking, Frisbee golfing, dog park etc.) Could each inquiry be settled on an individual basis, while utilizing the policy as much as possible?
 2. Possibility of changing/altering wording to the ordinances? - (47.10) specific to off-road bicycling. Does the ordinance need to be more/less broad?
 - a. The broader it gets, the more difficult to understand and enforce.
 - b. Ordinances are being violated all the time; meant to give power to the enforcer. Needs to be a statement that allows for authority over decision
- Comment on Draft of New Bylaws – Not ready for review
 - Article 4 - Are we going to enforce the word “active”? How do you enforce it? It should be left open because there are many ways to be active.
 - Article 7 - Do not need an executive committee, strike that sentence
 - Article 12 - Questions about whether this is necessary. Dealing with insurance. There is a need to know more about what the insurance means; (i.e. who it covers, how it protects us)
 - Take out the word “staggered” when defining time limits for voting members.
 - Should secretary be eliminated?
 - Questions about chair and vice chair- Do we need a vice chair? Does it need to be appointed by the chair? Does it need to exist? Necessary if the chair can’t attend.
 - Strike the whole article mentioning membership. Should it be defined as board member and guest? Could have core membership and additions would be revised by core membership.
 - Membership should be reflective of the actual use in park. When user group becomes so large that it has to be addressed, then it should be added.
 - How do you decide who can be on the board? What makes up a “qualified” person? Hard to define the criteria. There is a need for strong voting members. There should be a succinct way of wording this in the bylaws. The existing partnerships is a good place to get people, they tend to be the most interested in the cause.
 - Trail Etiquette Concerns – Proper speed, yielding to slow users
 - 2013 campaign for trail etiquette- start making brochures and other education material to distribute to public.
 - Jessica Binder thinks that this would be something that the Bike Fed could take the lead on.
 - Questions on whether to make separate brochures to target different users or make it general.

- West Allis - addition to Oak leaf trail from Greenfield Park; possible pilot project for trail education.

□ New Items:

- Ideas for sub-committees (categories)
- Finance committee – opportunities for investments. Ways to enhancement opportunities
- Integrated/connections for regions- access between counties
- Signage
- Is there a need for sub-committees? They should be formed ad hoc; around actual project.

□ Action items for next meeting:

- Updates on trail funding, new trail improvements
- Update on Council Member appointments
- Bylaws update
- Set council meeting dates for 2013

□ Announcements:

- Mention of Milwaukee County in the Rails to Trails 2013 winter issue.

□ Next Meeting:

- January 10th, 2012 10:00 AM
- Parks Administration Building
9480 Watertown Plank Rd
Wawautosa, WI 53226