

Prairie City Hometown Pride Committee
Prairie City City Hall
Minutes
May 22, 2017

The meeting of the Prairie City Hometown Pride Committee was called to order by Chairman Tony Ladehoff at 6 p.m.

Present: Tony Ladehoff, Dianne Taylor, Linda Frazier, Kirsten Wieland, Joan Van Gorp, Mayor Chad Alleger, Jasper County Hometown Pride Community Coach Jeff Davidson.

Minutes: Motion by Dianne to approve the April 24, 2017 minutes. Chad second. Passed.

Summer schedule: The group agreed that the committee would meet June 26 and July 24. We will not meet in August.

Regional Rail Trail Development

The Prairie City City Council approved the purchase of the trail land in Prairie City for \$63,000. There is still \$12,000 left in the grant.

Keri Van Zante, director of Jasper County Conservation, wants to meet to secure a design engineer. There will be a request for proposal and there must be competitive bids. Jasper County will award the contract. Jeff reported that we will hopefully know who the design group is by the end of the summer. The bids for the trail will probably go out in February or March of 2018.

Cheryl Grooms, NSNWR, Jeff Davidson and Keri Van Zante met May 24 with a representative regarding the Federal Land Access Program (FLAP) grant will be used for trail design and construction.

Jeff will meet with the Prairie City City Council on June 6 to answer any questions they may have.

Central Iowa Transportation Planning Association Trail Gap Map: Jeff provided the committee with a Regional Trail Gap Analysis map. The Central Iowa Transportation Planning Association controls the Federal fuel tax funds for trails.

- Level 1 trails on the map are top of the line trails. Our trail is Level 5 on the map.
- The section of the trail with the gold dashed line is a high priority to receive some funding.
- \$100,000 - \$200,000 per mile is the estimated cost for a paved trail.

Trail Name: The Jasper County Conservation Board will name the trail. Monroe recently voted to recommend Red Rock Trail for the name. Dianne moved that the Prairie City Hometown Pride Committee recommend Tall Grass Prairie Trail as the trail name. Linda second. Motion passed.

Mitchellville-Altoona Connection: The Prairie City trail ends on the east side of HWY 360 in Mitchellville. There are grain cars stored on the part of the track beyond that into Altoona. It is 4.5 miles to the sidewalk on 8th Street in Altoona.

Donations: Checks for donations to the trail should be made payable to Keep Iowa Beautiful – Prairie City Hometown Pride or Keep Iowa Beautiful with a note on the memo line that the donation is for the Prairie City Hometown Pride Committee. Jeff shared that Baxter has been fundraising and have raised \$7500.

Old Business

Pedal the Prairie: There were 25 several vendors and businesses registered for the event. The rain caused many vendors to pull out of the event. The wine tasting was held and there were five or six tents in the park.

Not-for-profit Coffee/Breakfast Establishment: Todd at the Stampede has tried to be open for breakfast in the past. In 1-2 years, the bike riders will be looking for a place for breakfast. We will pull this item off the agenda for now.

Fire/EMS building project: A report is being prepared.

Downtown WIFI: Shawn Balzer gave Chad a name to contact at Verizon. Chad will follow-up.

Farmers Market: Kirsten reported that on opening day there were five vendors, a taco truck and a musician. There is a bike night on the north side of the park scheduled for Thursday nights for the next six months. Kirsten asked to be put on the agenda for the City Council Meeting.

Building Repair Program for Local Businesses: There was consensus to remove this item from the agenda.

Platting of additional residential lots: no report.

Grant Status

Prairie Meadows: The new ambulance has been picked up. There is a report that must be completed for the 2016 \$10,000 grant. Two applications for the police (security equipment) and library (door openers) were approved for 2017.

REAP grant: when all eligible expenses have been paid, the grant will need to be closed out.

A question was raised about redoing the mural on the building on the south side of the park. Linda will check on this.

Community Coach Information/Committee Information/Other business

Jeff reported that five more counties have been added to the Hometown Pride Committee: Jackson, Jones, Dubuque, Warren, Clinton

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Dianne Taylor
Recording Secretary