

Prairie City Hometown Pride Committee
Prairie City City Hall
Minutes
March 26, 2018

The meeting of the Prairie City Hometown Pride Committee was called to order by Acting Chairperson Chad Alleger at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Kirsten Wieland, Sue Ponder, Linda Frazier, Joan Van Gorp, Dianne Taylor, Mayor Chad Alleger, Joe Bartello and Jasper County Hometown Pride Community Coach Jeff Davidson.

Chad stated Chairperson Tony Ladehoff could not attend and had asked him to chair the meeting. Kirsten moved that the minutes of the January 22, 2018 meeting be approved. Second by Linda. Passed.

Red Rock Prairie Trail Development

Snyder & Associates have been hired and have begun the design work for the entire trail. Snyder filed a preliminary report with the Iowa DOT.

Keri Van Zante, Jasper County Conservation, received a call to be at a meeting with the Central Iowa Regional Transportation Planning Association on March 28 to discuss the TAP grant application. She is on spring break so Jeff will attend in her place with Andrea Boulton of INHF. There are six applicants for the \$1m that's available.

There are other grant opportunities available for the trail. The State Recreation Trails grant application is due June 1. We have received this grant in the past and will apply again. Our project is a high priority.

Monroe will probably apply for a REAP grant since Prairie City already received one.

The updated cost estimate from Snyder & Associates is \$2.1m. Jeff is hopeful the cost estimate is high. Worst case scenario if we receive no further grants and only have the \$1.2m to work with: We will start at each end in Prairie City and Monroe and work toward the middle and chip seal the middle part temporarily. The earliest that bids will be let will be late Summer/early Fall, and the letting could be delayed until spring. It will be a 60-90 day construction project.

There is no additional local match needed at this time.

CIRTPA has endorsed Mitchellville's plan to connect the Red Rock Prairie Trail to the Des Moines metro trail system with a connection to the Chichaqua Valley Trail.

The Central Iowa Trails map was updated showing the Red Rock Prairie Trail by name.

Garden Square Park Bandstand

Sue has bids from Darrin Pendroy (DP Construction) and Ryan Vander Kamp for lights and electrical service. A painter has determined that the paint on the bandstand is lead-based and will be removing it before painting. Estimated cost for the entire project is \$15,350.

Sue submitted a grant application for a \$10,000 Prairie Meadows Community Betterment grant.

Sue is also applying for a 2018 Jasper Community Foundation grant in the amount of \$3350. The application is due March 30.

Old Business

Heartland Coop Mural

John Judisch, attorney for the City of Prairie City, reviewed the lease agreement with Heartland Cooperative and saw no problems with renewing the lease. Linda will reach out to Hallie, the woman who painted the Newton murals and see if she has interest in repainting the Prairie City mural. If needed Jeff can check with the University of Iowa art department to see if they have anyone else interested in the project.

Senior Housing

Joe attended a meeting with Omar from the Dallas County Habitat for Humanity organization. Omar wants to put a similar program in place in Jasper County. There will be a 12-person steering committee from community volunteers. Interested Prairie City parties: Matt McClure, Christy Lindsey, Phil Webb. Block party concept is where existing homes in a specific area are repaired and updated. Joe indicated that existing available LMI funds could be used for this.

Prairie City Business Association

Sue reported bids are being compiled from four or five contractors for the entry way sign.

Prairie City Farmers' Market

Kirsten stated the 2018 Prairie City Farmers' Market will run from May 31 – September 27 this year on Thursdays. The hours will be 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Kirsten has received five vendor applications. PCM High School students have been asked to submit design ideas for a poster for the Farmers Market. Kirsten has two vinyl banners to hang and there was discussion about hanging the banners on the fence by the buffalo. Longer term goals are to have the Prairie City Farmers Market nutritionist certified and to have vendors who can accept payments from the SNAP program.

Library Expansion Plan

The Library Board chose an architect for initial drawings for the concept design. They hope to have a plan by the end of the Summer and then will look for grants.

2018 Trees Please Grant

Prairie City received a \$1000 grant from Trees Please for trees. Joe stated they hope to replace Ash trees removed because of the Emerald Ash Borer.

Grain Elevator Light Projection Project

Jeff will follow up with the University of Iowa professor on this.

Downtown WiFi

Joe said there may not be viable options because of cost. He hasn't reached out to CenturyLink. The City's contract with Mediacom is up in the next two years.

Grant Status

- Joe stated he is continuing to assemble the materials needed to close out the REAP grant.
- Joe reported that the 2017 Prairie Meadows \$2500 grant for police threat detection equipment has been closed out.
- The Parks Board's Paint Iowa Beautiful grant request for paint has been granted.

Community Coach Information/Other Business

- Pedal the Prairie is Saturday, May 19.
- April is Keep Iowa Beautiful Month. Jeff will get the proclamation to Joe.

There will be a community meeting on April 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Building.

The next meeting is April 23, 2018 at 6 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Taylor, Recording Secretary