



GREAT PLAINS TRAILS NETWORK
June Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2015
Jayne Snyder Trails Center

Meeting called to order by President Roger Hirsch at 7:00 PM

MEMBERS:

Present: 18

Absent: 10

Bentrup	Bird	Dunbar	Baker	Heinrich	Sonderup
Carveth	Greene	Hammer	Godfrey	Ringlein	M. Torell
Vannier	Scoby	Griffin	Warren	Collier	Wehrbein
Stevens	Arp	Jerke	Hersy		
Case	Hirsch				
Stevens	Messerer				
B. Torell	Rosenboom				

Guest(s): Kelley Van Bruggen, Transportation Planner, Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department

Roll Call: All members

- All members talked about their favorite movie.

Check Presentation:

- Gary Bentrup on behalf of the fundraising committee accepted a check from Karen Griffin, representative for the Olsson Foundation. The Nebraska Trails Foundation was awarded a check for \$2,500 to go towards the N street project from the Olsson Foundation. The award was funded through a grant application.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Ray Stevens moved and Karen Griffin seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the May meeting. Motion carried.

GUEST PRESENTATION – Hirsch introduced Kellee Van Bruggen, Transportation Planner from the Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department.

Bike Share Program - Van Bruggen gave an update on the Bike Share program. The city has decided on an automated bike share system called Smart Dock. Smart docks easily identify a known place to find bikes, either by the user or the bike sharing agency. By having the physical kiosk in a permanent location, it allows visitors to simply walk up to a station and use a bike at any moment without having to be registered. Smart dock bikes unlock in response to a credit card or member key, providing a secure locking point to deter theft and safely transmit usage and billing information.

The city also looked at a technology that put all the information on the bike. No docking stations are needed and you can expand faster due to the lower cost. This system relies on smartphones for the application, which are not available to everyone. Also, smart bikes fall short in predictability in knowing where bikes are located without the designated dock. It could be difficult to patrol and prevent people from abusing the privilege of being able to dock bikes anywhere.

The cost for the bike sharing program will be \$750,000 – this will include 15 stations and 100 bikes. The city is predicting it will need to raise \$150,000 in private donations to make this work. They are working on sponsorship packages that will be available soon. UNL will have 3 stations.

There is a bike share coalition. Roger Hirsch and Jordan Messerer both sit on the coalition. There is a map of the proposed stations. These are not set in stone yet. The city will be putting out an RFP to hire a vendor to install and operate the system.

Stevens asked who will keep track of the bikes to make sure they aren't all at one station. Van Bruggen explained that the city will own the infrastructure of the program, but it will hire an outside firm to manage the system. They will run and maintain the program.

Van Bruggen said they hope to have a contract by fall.

Bike & Pedestrian Safety Assessment - Van Bruggen spoke briefly about bike and pedestrian safety assessment. The city was part of a study that was conducted across the country by the Federal Highway Administration. This study was announced in September by the US Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. The study was completed June 1 and will be available at bikelincolorn.org.

Bike Counters – Van Bruggen talked to the Board about adding additional trail counters. They received a quote for 2 permanent models like we have today and 1 mobile model for \$18,000. The other quote was for 4 permanent and 1 mobile at \$26,000. The city wasn't ready for a formal proposal for the system, but Van Bruggen indicated it would be better for the city to have 14 counters online and be upgraded to a premium package on the system. To save some money they are looking at downloading through a Bluetooth connection, while today the information is automatically upload for a cost of \$420 a month. With the Bluetooth connection and the additional counters the City would only have to pay \$650 a year. Van Bruggen indicated that there will be two counters on N Street as part of the construction plan. All the numbers from the counters are posted at bikelincolorn.com.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Hersey

- Not in attendance. Hirsch indicated that he will work with the finance committee to have a more comprehensive report in July.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Hirsch discussed the StarTran application for funding a Multi-Modal Transportation Center. The letter of support from GPTN has already been sent due to the need for immediate action. Hirsch circulated a copy of the letter with the Board agenda. Hirsch would like the minutes to reflect approval from the Board.

Roger Hirsch moved and Gary Bentrup seconded a motion to approve the StarTran Multi-Modal Transportation Center support letter as written. Motion carried.

Nebraska Trails Foundation (NTF) – no report

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Dena Noe

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fundraising Committee – Gary Bentrup

- Day of Caring was very positive for the Nebraska Trails Foundation. The funds raised have been designated to the N street project. Over \$7,000 raised, which will be matched by the Jayne Snyder Fund and we will also receive some fund from the Lincoln Community Foundation. Should be about \$15,500 when it all comes in. We have a commitment for the N Street project of \$340,000. Currently we have \$187,000 at NTF, Trail Trek estimate of \$10,000, Cooper Grant of \$10,000, Olsson Associates Grant of \$2,500, Woollam (maintenance endowment) of \$50,000. Current total = \$275,000. We still need to raise \$65,000. The committee is working and sending out donor request letters. Bentrup sent a list around to see if Board members had contacts at any of the businesses listed. He asked the Board members to review and add their name next to the contact if they could help.
- Karen Griffin receive our first check from the 2014 Community Service Fund as part of the United Way drive. The total is \$6,314. Some of these dollars were already designated.

Karen Griffin moved and Ray Stevens seconded a motion to designate \$3,108.36 of the check from the Community Service Fund to finish the Billy Wolf repaving project and the remaining \$3,205.79 to be put toward the N Street project when the check is deposited with the Nebraska Trails Foundation. Motion carried.

Government Relations Committee – M. Torell

- No updates

Public Relations Committee – Dunbar

- Dunbar reported that the first meeting of the PR committee was organizational in nature. We now have a membership card to use at event. Since the last meeting we had the dedication of the ?? as well as the Peter Pan Park Party which was headed by Bentrup with assistance by his wife and Arp. They had a smoothie machine there and it was a great hit. Red Dirt event went well with about 40 kids or so participated. The event was about general bike safety. Other items in the future includes Streets Alive, September 20 and M2M, October 3. Dunbar wondered if GPTN would have a place where people could get postcards, tent, maps, flyers, etc. PR Committee will discuss this in the future and bring back a recommendation to the Board.

Trail Use and Activities Committee – Greene & Vannier

Tour de Lincoln was a great event and many of the people would like the rides to continue all summer. Vannier thanked the Board for their help with the rides. There were about 20-30 in attendance for each ride.

Trail Trek Committee – NA

- Nothing to report.

Finance Committee – Godfrey

- Nothing to report.

Administration Committee – Hirsch

- Committee met before the Board meeting. Nothing to report at this time.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

Next GPTN Board meeting:

- Jayne Snyder Trails Center, July 13, 2015, 7 PM

Adjournment at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dena Noe, GPTN Vice President