

# **Camp Ripley /Veterans State Trail Committee Meeting**

July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Marty Skoglund Environmental Education Center,

Camp Ripley

## **Agenda**

### **A. Call to order/introductions/sign in sheet**

Present: Bob Reinitz, Mike Juvrud, Jan Lasar, Bob Hamann, Joan Hamann, Greg Kimman, Tim Edgeton, Frank Gosiak, Rich Collins, Jerry Lochner, Ken Jush, Roger Bently, Lee Miller, Amy Hunter, Dan Bednarek, Phil Trusty, Mark Yungbauer, Denis Schneider, Mary Safgren, Mark Blessing, Randy Thoreson, Holly Larson, Tim Edgeton, Greg Kimman, Duane Solga, Claudia Solga, Bruce Mills, Mike LeMieur, Cliff Borgerding, Paul Gazelka

### **B. Review minutes from last meeting 5-13 2010**

Motion to approve minutes: Bob Hamann, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Frank Gosiak, motion carried

### **C. Review Agenda**

### **D. Old business –chairman’s review of the last two months**

**1.a Finding a financial partner:** Cass and Crow Wing counties are not joining efforts, need to work with each county individually to build trail.

**1.b DNR Legacy Funds meeting Brainerd, MN:** DNR representatives were surprised about CRVST group’s intent to have a “return on investment” by building trail.

**1.c Regional Trails meeting Walker, MN:** discussed joint marketing of regional trails. Adjacent existing trails’ user numbers are very high. Other trail associations agree the CRVST is “very important” for central Minnesota.

**1.d Land Conservancy-attract federal Dollars ?** : Plans are in the works for the Land Conservancy to start a group to attract federal funding.

**1.e Politics- work it now !:** Bob Reinitz urged CRVST committee members to talk to politicians. Message: building this trail is not pork, it is an investment in central Minnesota's future.

**2. Local Radio, Party Line, MPR:** still waiting to schedule

**3. Letterhead:** Another letterhead was introduced by Jan Lasar and was chosen as the official logo/letterhead of the CRVST committee by a vote of seven "yes" and one "no " votes, the rest abstained.

**4. Website Demo by Mike Juvrud:**

**5. Report from funding sub-committee:** Greg Kimman: Contacted Initiative Foundation for money to fund a feasibility study. I.F. declined because currently their objective is to fund projects with an "immediately measureable " payback, not long term investments. The sub-committee is now looking for private sponsors.

**6. Ride with Oberstar:** Mike Juvrud attended, was able to talk to Jim Oberstar about the CRVST project, J.O. is in favor, says we need to collect resolutions of support from local residents/ governments.

**7. Caramel Roll Ride:** Jan Lasar volunteered and informed riders of proposed trail, permanent information display at Bowlus Community Center. Cliff Borgerding: CRR had 330 attendees.

## **E. New Business**

**1. National Parks Service Representatives:** Representatives from National Park Service (Minnesota office) attended the meeting to talk about trail funding and gave a presentation about their services. They help groups such as the CRVST committee build trails outside the NPS's boundaries by providing staff hours to assist with

- Corridor plans
- Feasibility studies
- Fundraising
- Gathering political support

They recommended using different messages for different user groups for PR purposes. There is an application process for their free services. Motion to submit application: Mike Juvrud, 2<sup>nd</sup> : Frank Gosiak, motion carried.

**2. Feasibility Study Funding:** Bob Reinitz: needs input for presentation to ask the Little Falls Chamber of Commerce to pay for a study.

**3. Veteran's Trail Ride Fundraiser this fall ?:** Dan Bednarek: ride could be part of Camp Ripley's open house next year. By show of hands: CRVST committee will put on a Veterans' Ride next fall. Frank Gosiak informed the committee about a three- day bike ride around the Camp Ripley area organized by Judge Minge this fall and suggested the committee use this event to promote the CRVST project. Jerry Lochner: motion to use Judge Minge's bike ride and Camp Ripley to promote the CRVST this year only, pending on Judge Minge's approval. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jan Lasar, motion carried. Frank Gosiak will head this effort and contact Judge Minge, Mike Juvrud and Jan Lasar will assist with the ride.

**4. How do we ( Little Falls) become more bike- friendly?:** Bob Reinitz will contact the Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota to give a presentation to the Little Falls City Council.

**5. Feasibility Study Funding:** Greg Kimman: Feasibility study needed to apply for DNR funds, he will outline cost. Smaller trail segments are easier to finance.

**Additional Discussion:**

- Rich Collins: we need to convince the public of the importance of this trail, need more PR
- Cliff Borgerding: Initiative Foundation offers classes on grant writing, could Central Minnesota Community Foundation be a financial partner ?
- Cliff Borgerding/Amy Hunter: Legacy Events: Use Little Falls Arts and Crafts Show to promote trail ?

- Dan Bednarek: use Google alerts to promote trail

Motion to adjourn: Frank Gosiak, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bob Hamann, meeting adjourned.

**Next Meeting:** September 9, 2010 . **No August meeting!**



