

Baraboo Bicycle Advisory Off Road Subcommittee
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Nov 17, 2022

Members present: C. Gabrielson, B. Hartup, A. Workman, J. Robinson, D. Kitkowski

Members absent: A. Zimmer, J. Wright, J. Sauer, B. Conen, P. Schmitz

Call to Order

Workman called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and confirmed compliance with the Open Meeting Law. Motion by Kitkowski, seconded by Hartup, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

New Business

a. Update on playground construction developments around Chief Naaga Keramani park

The information below comes from the Friends of Baraboo Parks (FOBP) Nov. 3 meeting minutes, and Hardy's Nov. 8th email to Workman:

- The Friends of Baraboo Parks' Kerimani Park budget is \$61,500. They have a draft playground equipment proposal (\$32,600), but no installation will occur until probably late summer or fall 2023 (any proposed purchase still has to be approved by the Parks & Rec Commission). Not enough Park Impact Fees have been collected to purchase yet as more buildings have to go up – but it is building quicker than originally planned.
- According to Hardy, there is not a budget specifically for any of the planned pump track area of the park/conservancy. That will be looked at in future phases of development – clearing invasives for primitive walking trails and bike trails is being done now mainly with volunteers and limited funds. Phase 1 development includes playground equipment and restrooms along with interpretive signage and parking for trails. Future phases may include money for pump track or other biking things, depending on how much impact fees remain. The hope is that we can continue to fundraise and write grants for bike infrastructure, including boardwalk/ramps and pumtrack.
- For parking lot timeframe: need more impact fees coming before can get started, but Hardy hopes to have some temporary parking in by spring and paving by late summer, or as soon as we are allowed in there.
- Interpretive signage has been included as one of the phases of park development, in the early part of the process. We could consider some bilingual type signage too, or a separate sign in the Ho Chunk language. Kristen White Eagle is interested in partnering; Hardy welcomes ideas and once we get the plan for signage throughout the park done, we can take it to Commission along with our plan to fund the signs. He hopes to start some sign ordering later this winter and start installing the first few signs in the spring as budget allows.

Garbrielson says at a meeting with Hardy on the original setup, Hardy showed a map on where the pavilion/bathrooms were planned to go.

Action Item: Workman to follow up with Hardy on the design for park.

Action Item: Workman add "Discuss draft language for signage" to next meeting's agenda.

b. Fundraising efforts/planning

The information below comes from Hardy's Nov. 8th email to Workman:

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Hardy shared the BAG wish list with FOBP and notified of the desire to raise funds through FOBP. Dave Kitkowski joined FOBP they are looking for members and happy to have biking reps join. FOBP will continue to work with you and/or Dave on future bike fundraising.

Action Item: Gabrielson follow up re: joining FOBP

Kitkowski created a wish list, with feedback from Robinson for revisions, and shared with Hardy. The list contained lumber and building materials for erosion control, bridges, and some drop features. If treated decking is used, 3 ft wide, \$6.50/ft would be the cost, using site sourced timber to frame out (should be sufficient deadfall in decent shape to use; cedar, in particular).

Gabrielson remembered Hardy reporting to the committee that this pot of money was available.

Action Item: Workman follow up with Hardy on \$10,000 that the bike committee was supposed to have allocated.

Kitkowski reported a possible location on the downhill part of the climbing trail to top of the ridge, which now has a straight down fall line, as an opportunity to make a bridge over with a rollable climbing feature.

Gabrielson said features have to have City risk in mind, so the idea should be run by Hardy first; initial talks on the type of trails included a family friendly focus. This committee would need info on the level of acceptable risk, as some insurance carriers have dropped mountain biking because of high risk elements.

Action Item: Kitkowski discuss with Hardy the level of risk tolerance for built features on the trail.

c. Master planning for trail development

The entrance into the off road biking area was discussed, with questions on whether there is a lane coming from Isenberg's on the road, or as a bike path off road separated by green space.

Action item: Gabrielson will reach out to Nelson/Pinion Multi-use to get clarity trail update

Action item: Gabrielson will ask Nelson/Pinion re: the easement status access at the west end to the shared use path connecting to private lands west of the conservancy.

It was mentioned that Dean and Mary Blum own the property on the western edge, and Robinson could reach out.

The committee revisited the "Jackson Conservancy Trail Plan" to review what actions in Phases I and II have been completed, are still in progress, and have not yet been started. Hartup asked if there was a plan for burn piles on site. Kitkowski said it probably isn't needed yet, as most branches are small.

Action Item: Workman will compile a progress report on Plan

Action Item: All committee members brainstorm on recruiting a lead for hiking trails on site.

Hartup suggested pitching the hiking trail for an REI volunteer day.

Action Item: Robinson will reach out to known contact to find out if a hiking trail volunteer labor day from/for REI is possible.

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d. Discuss trail signage:

1. Decide style desired (IMBA trail difficulty rating system, warning, and wayfinding)
2. Determine where signage is necessary

Tabled until next meeting, with the exception of one possible trail name for the loop on the northwestern corner of the property: Finger loop.

Next Meeting Dates: Wed, Dec. 14, 2023, 5:30 pm at Civic Center, Rm 12

Motion to adjourn by Gabrielson, seconded by Kitkowski. Meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.