

Baraboo Bicycle Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Nov 9, 2022

Members present: B. Koenig, C. Harding, B. Hartup, A. Workman

Members absent: T. Pinion, C. Gabrielson, B. Konen

Others noticed: D. Kitkowski, S. Taft, P. Schmitz

Call to Order

Workman called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m. and confirmed compliance with the Open Meeting Law. Motion by Hartup, second by Harding, to approve the minutes of the May 11 meeting. Motion carried.

Workman requested amending the agenda to include responsibilities of new BAG committee members, as a number of folks want to join. Workman read Hardy's email listing the responsibilities of committee members and the process for approval. Motion by Hartup, seconded by Harding, to approve the agenda with the addition. Motion carried.

New Business

a. Verbal report of June 8, 2022 meeting

Meeting did not have a quorum as the building was locked, but Schmitz, Taft, Gabrielson, Hartup and Workman met outside to discuss the results of the Bike to School/Work event on May 20, 2022. Total participation was about 20-25 people. Weather was a factor as the forecast was 'all storms'. All agreed that a larger event with more advanced planning should be a goal for 2023.

b. Update on off road trail building work day: October 29, 2022, Chief Naaga Keramani park

Twelve volunteers worked to build or clear about 1,000 ft of new trail, bringing the total mileage of built trail to about 1.25 miles and marked trail to 2 miles. Temporary signage has been installed, and a wish list has been compiled for fundraising. To this point, volunteers have put in almost 270 hours of volunteer labor on trail marking, clearing, and building.

A Chief Naaga Keramani Trail Conditions Facebook page was established in July 2022. Koenig asked if there is a long term goal of having a trail conditions report; Kitkowski said yes, to inform trail users of conditions and be a point of contact for trail use. Workman will work to remove the Tumbled Rock Riders Facebook page link on the Friends of Baraboo Parks Facebook page and replace it with the Chief Naaga Keramani Trail Conditions Facebook page. Workman spoke to future plans of having a registry-type page where people can select what they want to donate towards. Harding agreed saying "your \$100 will support..." is an incredibly effective fundraising strategy. Kitkowski said it is very helpful for corporate sponsorship as well.

c. Report on Wisconsin Healthy Communities Summit: September 29-30, 2022

a. Ideas for implementation

Taft attended both days of the Summit and reported it was incredible. Resources from DOT, WDNR, and Bike Federation on grant writing and panel discussions; he and Workman both took copious notes. Taft specifically went with a target of learning about DOT TAP grants and WDNR stewardship funding, which initiated this meeting. It was a fantastic event and he hopes they repeat it next year, perhaps more rounded with other outdoor activities, i.e. rock climbing. There was a great panel conversation about universal accessibility for people with

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disabilities and economically disadvantaged audiences, to connect resources to reaching these audiences. Hartup commented on the intersection of people, healthy communities and biking, which leads to a natural partnership with SSM. Kitkowski said he is the Environmental Safety and Emergency Preparedness Specialist for SSM Health, so he may be able to connect with potential sources of support. He conducts radio spots and promotionals for health and wellness activities. Koenig asked if there was a discrete study that was mentioned as part of the Summit; Workman said “The Nature Fix” was a book referenced that contains a lot of nature-related health and wellness data (connection between time spent in nature and physiological changes in the body related to stress, etc). Hartup suggested there might be a case study that someone has already done; if not, there should be. Taft thought there was one mentioned by Dane County Parks that might still be in progress.

d. Advanced planning for Bike to School Day (May 3, 2023)/Bike to Work Day (May 19, 2023)/Bike to Work Week (May 15-21, 2023)

Harding suggested starting with Liz Crammond of the Baraboo School District; she already gets communication from the Wisconsin Bike Federation and League of American Bicyclists. Kitkowski asked if a Bike Rodeo and Helmet Fit could be staged in the old Isenberg’s parking lot (Baraboo Ambulance and Fire). Rob Sindon (Police Chief) and Kevin Stieve (Fire Chief) are already supportive of the idea, according to Harding. Harding reported at the previous event (prior to Covid), there weren’t designated biking routes except to the Fairgrounds through Isenberg’s. Koenig asked how the marking was accomplished; Nelson/Harding said it wasn't marked on pavement, but adult volunteers were present directing youth. A few adults would be needed at each participating school.

Harding suggested a model where promotional materials would be hosted at each school on different days with a table, prizes, snacks, educational handouts (WDOT supplies) and Schmitz reported that Wildside could supply a technician. Hartup recommended looking at the School District calendar for conflicts (testing, graduation, etc) for Bike to Work week and perhaps adjusting dates as necessary. Harding said she could work with parent groups at each of the four elementary schools (East, GLW, Al Behrman, and North Freedom Elementary). Every day a student rides their bike, they’d get a ticket for prizes from Wildside. Workman suggested the BHS Student Council, Eco Club, and/or Key Club could be enlisted as volunteers at elementary schools for volunteer hours. Kitkowski inquired if NICA youth need volunteer hours; Schmitz said the parents of NICA youth push their kids for volunteer work, but may have difficulty being in school themselves. Harding suggested 4-H as a potential volunteer source; Workman mentioned the Sauk County 4-H youth educator is a former middle school teacher (Stacy Parsons) and would reach out. Harding asked if Wildside would provide pop-up and donated donuts (Taft) at Nanny Park next year; Kitkowski suggested off road group ride at CNK on Sat, May 20. Workman will look for old maps of suggested routes from the previous committee.

Hartup asked if anyone was a Sauk county Bike Fed county coordinator; Schmitz was not aware of the search, but would consider serving and would look into it. Hartup thought it might be a window into programming for the Baraboo/Sauk area. Koenig inquired about future initiatives; Workman will add to next meeting’s agenda.

Next Meeting Dates: Wed, Jan. 4, 2023, 5:30 pm City Hall

Motion to adjourn by Harding, seconded by Hartup. Meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.

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