

Baraboo Bicycle Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
April 13, 2022

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

Members absent: T. Pinion, C. Gabrielson, S. Mordini

Others present: S. Taft, J. Robinson

Call to Order

Workman called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. and confirmed compliance with the Open Meeting Law. Motion by Hartup, second by Harding, to approve the minutes of the April meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Konen, second by Hartup, to approve the agenda as printed.

New Business

a. Jackson property update and next trail building date: **Saturday, April 23 at 9 am**

Workman gave a summary of Kristin White Eagle's input at the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting on Monday, April 11, on the naming of the former Jackson Farm property. The suggested name includes a version of Keramani (pronounced "care-ah-mahn-ee"), Chief Keramani, or Naga Keramani, after a leader of the Ho Chunk Nation Council House that existed close to the Baraboo River, and a Village nearby. Workman also reported the Keramani family today is known as the "Carrimon" family. Harding and Robinson mentioned that Lance Tallamidge from the House of Wellness is interested in putting off road trails in the Ho Chunk area of the rendezvous/pow-wow grounds off of the west side of Hwy 12, N. Reedsburg Rd. All members present expressed support for the Keramani naming of the new park.

Workman reported meeting with the Friends of Baraboo Parks at the end of March and needing a name to fundraise with on the Friends website. Workman summarized the discussion started by Schmitz, reading his email to the off road group, and the support for SAMBA (Sauk Area Mountain Biking Association). Hartup asked where is Baraboo in the name; Konen agreed. Robinson described the loose mountain biking interest group called the "Tumbled Rock Riders," which at this point is essentially a Facebook group. **Robinson will add Workman as an Administrator on the Tumbled Rock Riders Fb page.** Schmitz's email mentioned the eventual establishment of a chapter of IMBA (International Mountain Biking Association) in the Baraboo Area, and Konen reported Madison's IMBA chapter is CORP (Capital Off Road Pathfinders); Schmitz is the trail steward for the Sauk Prairie Recreation Area and is working on a potential CORP-type association for the Baraboo area, which is where the suggestions of SAMBA (Sauk Area Mountain Biking Association) and BAMBAA (Baraboo Area Mountain Biking Association) originated. Koenig asked if the goal is to have this group live on/expand. Hartup motioned for fundraising purposes to call the group name the Baraboo Area Mountain Biking Association (BAMBAA) for the "Off Road Trail Building" project at the former Jackson property, seconded Koenig. Motion carried. Konen asked if we should bring it up to the larger group, led by John Sauer. Workman said she will send out a notice to the off road group.

Robinson volunteered to go out to the property and take photos; Koenig will contact the Baraboo News Republic for an article about the project. Harding said for fundraising purposes we should do a give back day (proceeds to benefit off road trail building) and will reach out to businesses to designate a day to give back. Hartup will bring a chainsaw on the 23rd, (Robinson not available).

d. Discussion of Bike to School Day (5/4) or Bike to Work Day (5/20) event

1) Public input at 6 pm - S. Taft & J. Robinson

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Taft presented to downtown business leaders about bike benefit and reported business members' interest was peaked! They asked what can we do, and Taft gave "bike benefits" idea to "bring in your helmet for a discount." Robinson mentioned there high school student who works at Wildside; idea to bring Friday Bike to School event idea to Glenn Bildstein at BHS. **Workman will send Taft Jim Langkamp's Glenn Bildstein's emails.** **Harding volunteered to contact all of the principals of the schools to gauge what happened in the past.** Harding reported not all the schools participated, Nelson was very involved, and the action was at East Elementary. Had lots of parental support to set up bike routes to school at East (required a dozen volunteers.). No time to do that this year; have to study traffic patterns and plan routes. **Harding said she could contact all the principals and say that this is something we want for next year (each school will have a different route).** Harding suggested that students coming to school with a bike helmet get their name put into a drawing for prizes. Set it just up for Friday, May 20, and then have recognition at the bike rodeo on Saturday. **Konen will contact Jerry Jackson if he can to find him for previous Bike to School event maps. Harding volunteered to be in charge of a bigger event next year.**

Koenig said what's behind the goal is to actually make biking safe in the City of Baraboo, so we should do a temporary crossing demo, with a "bike bus" for young kids on bikes. Harding said this was done in the last event. Koenig said the whole event depends on actually having safe bike crossings to school, which is what the input to the WDOT on the Hwy 33 reconstruction is for. Workman read Pinion's email regarding pedestrian crossing; Koenig contested that the crossings at Sauk City on Hwy 12 represent "the extra mile" - they are not effective. Koenig made a distinction between an island refuge and the dead plantings in the roundabout. Hartup said he could have maintained the roundabout median areas in the time the email was read. Harding said Master Gardeners could be utilized. Koenig asked if native plants that don't require mowing or watering could be utilized (all dead in the planting by Uhaul). Koenig said the center refuge in Sun Prairie is a successful example of effective median, but wasn't sure on details of maintenance; Hartup commented it's probably due to a neighborhood association's involvement. **Hartup and Harding will co-chair the future Safe to Routes to Schools effort, with Koenig promoting and demoing the infrastructure to make it happen.**

Robinson said Wildside would set up a pop-up tent downtown and do safety checks; although Baraboo PD would need to handle the safety education. Taft questioned if a permit is needed to host the Bike Rodeo event. Koenig suggested the Circus World parking lot would be a good location, but Taft reported that the Sauk County Historical Society that now manages Circus World is very opposed to biking anywhere near the property. Harding volunteered to call the Baraboo PD and Fire Department about hosting the event at the parking lot behind the ambulance service, but Taft said the Civic Center parking lot might be even better. The Rodeo is essentially a skills obstacle course that is completely closed to traffic, and can be in a small area like in Portage, according to Robinson. Taft suggested the Boys & Girls Club, but Harding expressed a big barrier would be that a lot of the kids don't have bikes. **Konen will reach out to Hanz Fester to write a grant to purchase loaner bikes for a future bike rodeo event.**

Hartup suggested dialing back all of it, to just have one event combo of Bike to School/Work event on Friday, May 20. Ideally would have a multi day event, but not feasible this year. Harding suggested that the Bike Federation pushes the event hard, but locally, it's just us.

FOCUS ON THIS DATE ALONE: Friday, May 20 - Bike to Work/School event

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Taft suggested starting at Courthouse. Koenig will contact the Baraboo PD to explore securing temporary bike parking for the Bike to Work week 2023. Koenig will research how other cities build more bike parking downtown; but Koenen, Harding and Robinson all agreed downtown bike parking would likely not be utilized due to theft concerns. Workman noted that part of the application for the Bicycle Friendly Community status of the League of American Bicyclists is an audit of existing bike parking.

Taft will approach businesses this week and gauge which businesses would be willing/able to participate. Taft would be willing to promote, but needs a time and location. Hartup and Lana Nissley of PoweredUP Baraboo will volunteer at the tents that morning. Workman will reach out to Mike Hardy about setting up the Wildside tent at Nanny Park first, or who to contact from the Department of Public Works if it takes up 1-2 street parking spots. Taft will approach Neato's and Coffee Bean to donate pastry/donuts/coffee and Harding will provide extra tables. Agreed 7 am would be a good start time. Harding will do preliminary work about the Bike Rodeo, and see if she can make some contacts about who might be available.

Next Meeting Dates: Wednesday, April 27, 5:30 pm, City Hall or Zoom.

Harding will generate and send out the Zoom invite for April 27.

Motion to adjourn by Harding, seconded by Koenen. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.