

MINUTES
Recreational Trail Advocates
August 3, 2009

Present: Bruce Brown, Sandra and George Burrier, Roger John, David Pittman, Ken Kiley, Jim Dallmeyer, Al and Mary Harkrader, Mike Rucker and Tim O'Hanlon

Approval Of Minutes Motion by Ken Kiley, seconded by David Pittman, unanimously approved
Approval of Treasurer's Report—Mike Pula absent so balance will be reported at next month's meeting

Introduction of Visitors—None

I. Old Business

- A. On July 25 Christine Stowell, George Burrier and Mike Pula painted the posts and pit toilets at the Alta parking lot and started painting the vehicle barrier posts to the north. Next work day will be August 22, 2009 at 8 AM at the Alta Parking lot. If photos are taken that day, send to DeWayne Bartels of the Peoria Times Observer and he may be able to publish the photos. It was suggested to have workers sign waivers for liability reasons on work days.
The mention of the trail north of Dunlap was not in very good condition. George will call Grant McCauley to see if summer workers have been working and the plans for working on the trail north of Dunlap. The trail between mile marker 17 and Toulon was said to be in good condition.
- B. Peoria City Council approved the joint operating protocol of the 2 railroads July 28 with a 7-1 vote. David mentioned that Gary Sandburg's opposition was based on the loss of manufacturing jobs and Gary also felt that a rail/trail combination was still a possibility.
- C. The **second** appraisal, **second** title search and new demand for a survey remain unfinished. David will talk with Bonnie Noble about how much progress has been made on these items. He will ask what can our group do to help.
- D. George has negotiated the repair and rejuvenation of the CB & Q railroad sign for the Wyoming depot at the authorized cost of \$2,000. Mike Pula has volunteered to take the old sign to Bloomington for the work.
- E. Discussion of any typographical errors or changes to be made for the pamphlet. No additional typos or suggestions have come in. The matter was tabled until the September meeting. Everyone should critically read the pamphlet this month and come ready to vote in September if we want to produce more pamphlets and how many to print. Matt Allen, webmaster, will be asked to put the assignment on the website for the September meeting.
- F. Report by David or Joe Stowell on bumper stickers. David had no report and Joe was not present.
- G. George has sent a letter to David Wheeler of the Peoria Park District (PPD) asking for approval of a location for the donated benches from the UAW. David will follow up by talking to Bonnie Noble/David Wheeler stating the advocates prefer concrete pad bases for the bench installation and ask about the installation placement

- H. Contact with PPD about proposed name for the Keller Branch section of the trail—David will talk to PPD and voice that the advocates would like to stay with the Rock Island Trail name or Rock Island Greenway.
- I. The Dallmeyers plan to meet with Dale Adkins, Chairman Recreation and Tourism Administration at WIU. The advocates suggested he or another faculty member come to a meeting of the group and should look at the website for background and get acquainted with Tri-County Regional Planning to see what the commission has in the works.
- J. Status of spring ride with East Peoria mayor/citizens—David Pittman—David contacted Red Cross and they were not presently interested in sponsoring. Bruce suggested that David contact Christine Ludwig of Red Cross as she is trail advocate. Roger suggested contacting East Peoria Rotary and Mayor Dave Mingus for their input.

II. New Business

- A. Pedal the Prairie sponsored by Center Center for Healthy Living—September 13—Start at 8 AM at Conner Company on Pioneer Parkway. This is one of the organization's big fund raiser and they really need your support. If you can't attend try to convince a friend to go.
- B. Tri-County Planning meeting on Tuesday, August 4 with Melissa Eaton presiding
- C. Peoria libraries and bike route plans—David Pittman—David will contact the president of the library board about any plans to connect trails to the libraries and the missing bike rack that failed to be in the plans.
- D. Signs on trail to advertise Friends of the Rock Island Trail—David suggested we invest in kiosks with information about the group. David will check with PPD on their part of the trail and Tim O'Hanlon will check with George Bellovics of IDNR about the state part of the trail. Working with towns on the trail was suggested to get a kiosk for the town to show the amenities that they have to offer.
- E. Duryea Days in Peoria Heights—Mike Rucker--October 9 and 10. Mike will chair a table/booth representing the Friends of the Rock Island Trail on both days. Call Mike and volunteer to help "man" the table/booth. George will see that he has any pamphlets left. It was suggested that Mike obtain maps from Tri-County Planning to have on display. Mike said bikes are wanted to ride in Saturday's parade. Mike will give a talk on Saturday, October 10 at Peoria Heights Library at 3 PM about the history of the Duryea brothers

III. Announcements: George and Sandra Burrier will be out of town for September and October

Has anyone seen George's plans for the kiosk proposed for PPD's proposed new location on Knoxville brought to the July 13th meeting?

Ken mentioned that the Rock Island Trail is not alone with washouts with the rains. He rode the I and M Canal recently and experienced many washouts

Bruce Brown was thanked for hosting meetings for the last couple of years. The refreshments have been a great plus!

Next meeting date: September 14, 2009 at Paparazzi's Restaurant in Peoria Heights at 7 PM

October 5th meeting and all future meetings will be at Safety Town on Sheridan Road at 7 PM. David and Cora Lynn Green will coordinate and get the key and necessary code.

IV, Adjournment