

RIB MOUNTAIN PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE SAFETY COMMITTEE

May 21, 2020

7:30 A.M.

Attendees: John Beatty, and John Brauer. Chairperson Andrea Larson, Mark Clark, and Lori Woldt via telephone conference.

Excused: Curt Deininger and Paul Clarke

Staff attendance included Administrator Gaylene Rhoden, Town Clerk Joanne Ruechel and Street and Park Superintendent Scott Turner

Safety Moment: Chairman Larson reminded us to get outside more and exercise.

Minutes: **Motion by Beatty/Clark to approve the February 20, 2020 minutes. Questioned and carried 5:0.**

Reports:

Park Commission – Andrea Larson reported that there was a Park's Commission meeting last week. They discussed the summer recreation program and how it would be revised. They also spoke about Sandy's Bark Park and the land addition that will be connected to the bark park.

Metro – John Beatty stated MPO met and he provided them with the updated Town bike maps. He also reported that the Village of Rothschild is repaving Birch Street which is the connecting street between the Wisconsin River bike path and the Cedar Creek trail.

Staff Reports from Scott/Gaylene:

Trillium Trail – Superintendent Turner stated that the clearing and grubbing began last week. He's hoping that the trail is done and opened by August. There will be a trailhead at Buttercup Road and Foxglove Road. There will also be parking for 3-4 cars in this area. Chad Lemmens is also doing ariel footage of the trail.

Morning Glory/Lilac development and street plans - Superintendent Turner reported that we did not get all of the funding for Lilac Road that we applied for. There is no timeline on completing this project.

The unnamed road is out for bid right now. There is a survey on Facebook to name this road. There will be sidewalks on both sides of the road and a north/south crossing at the intersection of Lilac Road and Rib Mountain Drive.

Swan Avenue Construction - Street and Park Superintendent Turner reported that Swan Avenue will be repaved this year from Mint Lane to Parrot Lane. There will also be culverts put in while the road is being redone. They will make the road 26 feet wide instead of the 24 feet wide which it now is. The construction will start in July and be done in September.

New Business –

2020 Bike Rodeo - Administrator Rhoden stated that Staff is working at putting together a summer recreation program for the children in Rib Mountain. They are working with the Marathon County Health Department to keep everyone safe.

Street and Park Superintendent stated that they are looking at doing the bike rodeo at the end of July as part of the summer recreation program.

May Bike Month- Chairman Larson asked that we put a notice on Facebook that May is bike month. It was mentioned to have a Trillium Trail grand opening along with a bike ride on the trail in late August or September.

Old Business-

Town of Rib Mountain Proposed Bike/Ped Map Town Board Follow-up- The Town Board approved the Bike and Pedestrian map in February of 2020.

Rib Mountain State Park Master Plan Update- The Bike and Pedestrian Committee discussed having a “safe route to school” off of Fern Lane. They discussed what would happen if Rib Mountain school closes and how we could accommodate all of the additional students going to South Mountain School.

51/29 Tunnel Mural- Chairman Larson reached out to “Rise Up”. They are a group that has painted murals in Wausau. She is going to continue to pursue grants to pay for the paint and supplies for the mural. Superintendent Turner is working with Marathon County to get rid of the graffiti inside the tunnel.

Administrator Rhoden mentioned that the County Road “R” wall is cracking and needs to be fixed. It has been addressed with Marathon County.

Bike Rack-Glass Nickel Pizza- Superintendent Turner presented which bike rack styles are available. The Commission is still looking at options for the bike rack.

Report from Members – Lori Woldt stated that she has noticed a lot of littering at Bluegill Bay Park. The concrete car stops at Bluegill Bay Park are also cracked and broken.

John Beatty stated that the MPO is looking for a complete street plan. He asked that the committee members look for places in Town that would be good for bicycles and pedestrians and that we would pass that information on to MPO. He also mentioned that Marathon County would like to chip seal the County Road “R” trail. John would like to see the trail paved rather than chip sealed. He would also like the Bike and Pedestrian Commission let the Town Board know that they are against having a bridge between Foxglove Road and Military Road in Rothschild. He does not believe that it would enhance the safety of bikers or pedestrians in Rib Mountain.

Andrea Larson stated that she is organizing a walk/run in Edgar and Athens. She asked if anyone is interested, that they get ahold of her for the details.

Items for Town Board – None

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next meeting will be on June 18, 2020.

Adjourn: Motion by Woldt/Brauer to adjourn at 8:44 a.m. Questioned and carried 5:0.

Submitted by
Joanne Ruechel
Town of Rib Mountain Clerk