

LCTA Board & Fifteen in 5 Meeting
People's Unitarian Church
April 10, 2006
MINUTES

Attendance:

LCTA Board Members: Dean Barnum, Jan Barnum, Joe Clark, Sandy Colton, Ben Dukes, Keith Fletcher, Diane Handler, Jim Healy, John Helbling, Ron McGraw, Lynn Ocken, Amy Reasner, Keith Sutherland, John Wauer, Mike Wilson, Jim Wing, Dave Wolf.

Trail Supporters: Brad Mullin, Dan Biechler, Dennis Goemaat, Suresh Gany, Vicky Evans, Leland Freie, Lance Letellier, Richard Fox, Pat Healy, Tom Faldenberg, Steve Hershner. Geoff Eastburn..

The meeting was called to order by Jim Healy, President.

Minutes: Jan Barnum

The minutes for the March 13, 2006 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Ed Holstrom (not present)

Jim Healy reviewed the report showing total assets of \$59,624.86. The report was approved.

Speaker: Richard Fox, Parks and Recreation Director, City of Marion.

Richard gave a PowerPoint presentation on the City of Marion Master Trails Plan. The plan has been approved by the Marion City Council. The purpose of the plan is to make recommendations that will lead to a network of trails in Marion. There is growing interest in trails in Marion and they have built about three miles of trails in the last few years but there has not been a formal plan for a network of trails. The plan includes three goals. (1) A steering committee will develop long range trail plans. LCTA will be part of this committee. Trails will be identified that can be built and a time table established. (2) The benefits of trails will be promoted and resources identified for funds. A small amount of money is being set aside each year. (3) A criteria for trail development will be established. Trails will be prioritized and those that fit into the budget identified. Some trails will be on greenways, some on existing streets, some on rail corridors. The Boyson Park Trail is a Priority 1 trail and a REAP grant has been received to extend it. A plan is being developed to cross Highway 100 and hook it into the CEMAR trail in the next five years. The Boyson Park Trail is heavily used. The LCTA counter showed an average of 2800 users per week last summer and, even in the winter, 100 users on most days. The Grant Wood Trail will be a Priority 1 trail. The trail network will connect Marion parks, possibly Marion downtown, and connect Marion to Cedar Rapids at several points.

Committee Reports:

Trail Development: Ron McGraw

Ron has a draft of definitions for connector trails which could be put in place soon and at low cost. The final version of the draft will be taken to the Cedar Rapids City Council to be adopted as part of their new traffic plan. The draft defines bike lanes, wide sidewalks, and neighborhood connectors. Ron asked for ideas on where trails and bike lanes should be and what changes board members and supporters would like to see. John Helbling volunteered to help with the plan and finalize the draft in a suitable format to present to the city council. He will have it completed by the next board meeting for approval. Ron has a chart showing about 70 miles of trails which could be put in place in the next five years. The Trail Development Committee will be working on adding another 20 to 25 miles to that list. Ideas should be submitted to the committee.

Trail Safety/Amenities: Lynn Ocken

Lynn asked for volunteers to help with the Linn County Beautification Clean-Up on April 23. The area will be around Cedar Lake. There will be more information by email. Lynn will be asking for input from her committee by email on priorities for signage.

Public Awareness & Support: Amy Reasner

There will be a Health Fair on May 12 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm at Marion High School. It is a good opportunity for publicity and to show our trail map. Joe Clark has volunteered to help and other volunteers are needed. Last year's fair was a great success. National Trails Day will be on June 3. There will be a progressive breakfast on the Cedar River Trail. The Linn County Conservation Department will have a breakfast and hike at Matsell Bridge County Park. The LCTA progressive breakfast will be advertised in the Linn County newsletter and the Matsell Bridge event will be advertised in the LCTA newsletter. Volunteers are needed at both events. Sandy Colton has received a donation of \$1,000 to be used for National Trails Day. Amy will be working on publicity for the events.

New T-Shirts: Dean Barnum

The new design will have Linn County Trails Association on the front with a wheel chair, skater, walker and biker on a trail. On the back will be Linn County Trails Association and We Make Trails Happen. Before the deadline of May 1, you can order a variety of colors. After the deadline four colors will be available. All board members will be expected to buy one. Dean asked whether it would be best to order 72 or 144. A motion was made, seconded and approved to order 144. The t-shirts will come in a sealed plastic bag and can be ordered and delivered by US mail. The shirts will sell for \$10. Dean took orders for shirts.

Volunteer/Supporter Development: Keith Sutherland

A total of 59 contributions in the amount of \$3575 have been received in the last three months. Keith has a list of goals to be discussed by the committee. More trail supporters need to be recruited.

Financial Strength: Jon Bogert

Jim Healy reported that Jon is working with Adam Lindenlaub to line up fund-raising projects for the "Cornell Fellow". Jon has developed a data base of funding sources.

Governmental Support: John Helbling

The committee will meet on Thursday. Keith Sutherland has set up a data base and plans will be discussed.

New Board Member Approval: Jim Healy

Jim nominated Sue Grant and Geoff Eastburn to be on the LCTA Board. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept Sue and Geoff as LCTA board members.

New Advisory Board Member Approval: Jim Healy

Jim nominated Adam Lindenlaub to be on the LCTA Advisory Board. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept Adam as a LCTA Advisory Board member.

Other Business:

Jim Healy said we should figure out how to persuade people to be trail supporters as we continue to need financial support. It was suggested that supporters who donate \$100 could receive one of the new T-shirts

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Names of *Fifteen in 5* supporters have been added to the general data base.

Next LCTA & *Fifteen in 5* Board Meeting will be May 9, 2006.

Jan and Dean Barnum, Co-Secretaries