

Breckenridge Active Living Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, January 12th, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers.

Members Present: Tim Peterson, Evie Fox, Chris Loehr, Lori Gefre, Reed Johnson, Patrick Hollister (Telecom), Jackson Kriel, Corinna Erickson, Becky Tripp, Curt Londroche, Sarah Lansing, Neil Crocker
Guest Speakers: Rick Abrahamson, Farm Project Coordinator and Luke Preussler, Director of Mission

Call to Order

Lori called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Approval of Minutes: Reed offered a motion to approve the minutes from the December 8th, 2021, meeting. The motion was seconded by Evie and carried unanimously.

CHI St. Francis Health Garden Project Presentation- Luke Preussler & Rick Abrahamson

Luke and Rick informed the committee on the new "Farm at St. Francis" project. This is in response to an identified community need from the 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment. They went over project goals, highlights, upcoming plans and overall vision.

-In 2021, volunteers and St. Francis staff planted raised beds and donated to the Richland-Wilkin Food Pantry, or to area families in need. Items that were donated were potatoes, onions, tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, etc.

-There is a total of ½ acre of land that is available for this project. At this time they will be utilizing ¼ acre, with the other ¼ acre being cover crop.

-Community plots have not been ruled out, but are not in the first phase of this project.

-Start up training for producers would be ideal and a goal.

-Volunteers are needed for watering and weeding.

-Organic practices will be used, but it takes 3 years to be certified and with a 3 year grant, they are not sure if that is the right way to spend the time and resources.

- Capital projects on the farm site include installing a deep winter greenhouse and high tunnel, and upgrading the irrigation system.

-Lori will email the committee the slideshow presentation, which includes the contact information for Luke and Rick.

Safe Routes to School

Engineering Update

Update from Brian: "We are currently working on preparing the plans and specifications for the project. Once we have a set for review I'll meet with Neil to review and then we will submit them to MNDOT for review."

Education, Encouragement, Enforcement Update

No updates at this time.

Activities / Improvements for Breckenridge:

1. Dog Park

Bench Donation:

No update on bench.

There are some funds left from the fundraising for this project to be used to purchase doggy accessories. If anyone would like to be a part of this discussion, let Lori know.

Direction Signs- PartnerSHIP 4 Health:

No update.

Headwaters Day, Saturday, September 10th, 2022- Planning:

The committee would like to have someone from the WB Chamber join our February meeting to go over what the plans are for events and things happening in Breckenridge. Lori will contact them and ask for someone to join the February 9th meeting.

Other Business:

- Tim has heard some positive comments regarding how nice and welcoming the Christmas lighting is along the Highway 75 path.
- Tim had an idea to get the local service clubs/groups together and have each one do a presentation of what they are about, what they are currently working on, and what they plan to do in the future. There was discussion on inviting the public and this may be a way for people that are interested (or new) to the area to get involved if they don't know how or where to start.
- Becky went over the survey results from the We Care Coalition's At-Risk Behaviors survey.
- Patrick emailed the committee on a Zoom meeting regarding learning more about DNR grants

Motion by Neil to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 am. Seconded by Chris. The next Active Living Committee Meeting will be Wednesday, February 9th, 2022 at 9:00 AM.