

Breckenridge Active Living Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, February 08, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers.

Members Present: Lori Gefre, Reed Johnson, Curt Londroche, Sarah Lansing, Becky Tripp, Evie Fox, Neil Crocker, Lori Conway, Adalia Speer, Corinna Erickson, Chris Loehr, Shawn Roberts, Mandy Steinberger

Guest Present: Chris Vedder

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Minutes: Reed offered a motion to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2023, meeting. The motion was seconded by Evie and carried unanimously.

3. Headwaters Day – Saturday, September 9, 2023, Planning CHI Foundation

Lori G. was contacted by the CHI St. Francis Foundation Board inquiring about having a family-friendly event in the fall and possibly piggybacking with Headwaters Day. Someone was scheduled to attend this meeting, however, there was no one in attendance. Lori G. will reach out to the board and see if they would like to attend the March meeting.

Miles for Max 5k

Anna Marohl with Miles for Max 5k reached out again this year and is looking to have their event again during Headwaters Day. Lori G. responded to Anna and let her know that it would again be a great addition to the event. Anna will be included in the emails regarding ALC and Headwaters Day going forward.

4. Highway 75 walk/bike path Banners

Arts Council

-Chris Vedder, with Three Rivers Arts Council asked the committee about have banners hung on the non-sponsored poles along the path. There was a grant that was applied for with Lake Region Arts Council. If the grant is awarded it would be used for youth 4th -12th grade to make art on legal size paper that would be scanned and placed 4 to a banner and installed along the path. There would also be a QR code located on a sign which would take you to more information from the students regarding their art. Since currently the banners are sponsored and a form of fundraising for the ALC the Arts Council is asking if this year they would be able to place banners on the non-sponsored poles for no charge, but going forward they would apply for a grant and include the rental cost for the poles. Committee members had some discussion and Shawn will write a letter of approval from the ALC stating that we are excited to have the youth involved in the arts and we are excited to have the banners placed along the path. The letter should also include that there is no pole rental charge for this year, but in the upcoming years there will be a fee.

-Three River Arts Council members Chris Vedder, Eileen Mislán and Jasmine Rall (youth liaison) have been also working on a press release, permission from the Breckenridge Elementary and Middle/High School, and communication with the youth regarding this project. At this time they are looking to just include the public school. However, in the future they would like to include home school and St. Mary's students.

- There are a total of 25 sponsorships for the 2023-2026 banners, which is 3 less than the past. Lori G. did reach out to all the sponsorships from the 2020-2023 banners that did not respond.

-Lori G. sent off the listing of participants to Auto Creations & Signs on February 2nd. Dave called back with an update on the material. The company that makes the banners said that the material used is currently on back order, but they plan to get some in at the end of February. The production time is 2 weeks. Dave will have the artwork to them by mid-February. So, when they get the material in, they are ready to produce the banners.

-Payments are due on February 15th.

5. Safe Routes to School

Engineering Update

Neil updated the committee that the flashing beacons have been ordered and there has been ongoing communication regarding the type of gate needed for the entrance.

Education, Encouragement, Enforcement Update

No updates at this time.

4. Other Business

a. MnDOT Grant Available- Active Transportation:

i. Jefferson Park:

No updates currently. Grant will be awarded March 24th.

b. Bicycle Friendly Communities

Patrick emailed the committee a link to The League of American Bicyclists, Becoming a Bicycle Friendly Community. Evie is going to look further into the benefits and details to see if this is something for Breckenridge.

5. New project- discussion

a. Jefferson Park-sidewalk

See above.

b. Levee path

-Chris and Neil have been working on getting communication to the 17 homeowners that own the property on either side of the levee. There will be communication directly with those homeowners asking for permission to utilize the levee system for walking/biking. Once we have written permission, signage can be updated to add walking/biking permitted on the areas that can be used for this purpose. If all the homeowners gave permission this would add an additional 19,000+ linear feet (3.6 miles) of additional trail systems in Breckenridge.

c. Ideas from youth

Adalia put together a survey for the students grade 7-12 at Breckenridge School. This survey was done online and received 63 responses. The questions asked were Q1. What would you like to see improved in the community? (Ex. Sidewalks, bike paths, pickleball and tennis courts, etc.) Q2. What changes or activities would you like to see offered at the teen center that aren't already? Q3. Any other questions or comments?

-Consensus of the survey: Q1. adding and improving sidewalks, running/bike paths, better roads, picking up trash, more things to do (basketball/tennis courts, finish skate park, businesses) Q2. Pinball machine, volleyball/basketball courts, summer outside activities, hockey sticks, archery, card games, art, cement area for roller hockey, video game tournaments, later hours Q3. Video game tournament, touch up the numbers at the track and field, open gym for volleyball.

-Adalia mentioned the produce at the school not being very good at this time. The committee discussed the greenhouse at the Middle School not being used and possibly moving it to the High School for a use coinciding with a class, like the fruit trees.

Other

-Father Daughter Dance was set for Saturday, February 18th. However, Kris has not had the time to dedicate to the planning, due to being short staffed. He is looking for a time in April. More information to come.

-Evie inquired about possible locations for community gardens. Neil did not think there was any space in the city limits that could be dedicated to this.

Motion by Neil to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 am. Seconded by Reed and carried unanimously.

The next Active Living Committee Meeting will be Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 9:00 AM.