

Osawatomi Trail Task Force – March 4, 2020

Osawatomi Trail Task Force met at 5:00 pm on March 4, 2020, in the conference room at Osawatomi City Hall. Members present were Kari Burchett, Jeff Dorsett, Mark Fuchs, Gary French, Doug Walker, and Jeff Walmann. Also present were scribe Karen LaDuex as well as Tammy Seamands, Osawatomi City Clerk, and Sam Moon, Assistant to the Osawatomi City Manager.

The minutes of the January meeting were distributed and approved with one correction, that being that Dorsett, not Walmann, will assist Lamirande in coordinating Rhythm and Ride activities.

In regard to **Acquisitions/Property**, the focus was a discussion revolving around construction of bridge abutments and the purchase and installation of the bridge. Task Force accrued funds are repositied with the City in a dedicated line item. Task Force invoices are paid from those funds by the City, and an official accounting of funds is maintained by the City. Also portions of the grant funds awarded to the Task Force are composed in part by federal funds. For these reasons, the Task Force must comply with City ordinance with regard to the award of major projects. The ordinance specifies that in cases of procurement of goods or services with single payments in excess of \$10,000, a Request for Proposals must be published. It was decided that Doug Walker and Sam Moon would work together to write the Request which will be published in the Miami County Papers on March 11, 2012.

Walker reported on the status of trail construction which is currently continuing in the section south of Trojan Elementary. He noted that this section is three work days from completion. Connection of the new trail to the existing Flint Hills Trail has been completed. Screenings from the supply on the Flint Hills Trail near the Henson property will be spread from the Henson property east to the turnaround, just west of the bridge location. The weather and terrain conditions have halted progress since January. It is estimated that the cost to complete the Trail itself is \$47,000.

Design for the Trailhead parking area was discussed. A three-dimensional scan of the area has been completed and the easternmost parking area has been cleared. A preliminary plan for this parking lot has been completed. This parking area will accommodate vehicles and horse trailers. The cost for grading this area is estimated to be \$20,000.

The kiosk design will mimic that of a railroad depot and include four to eight panels. Pat's Signs will help with the design of the panels. Plans for the KATY trailhead kiosks have been procured. Home Depot and local groups will be contacted with regard to donations of material and funding for the kiosk. Task Force members agreed to use portable restroom facilities as opposed to more permanent construction due to cost and the potential for vandalism of a permanent structure. Task Force personnel will work with the City and USD 367 to install a permanent water line under the proposed eastern parking area to the kiosk area. Designated Task Force members will meet with school district personnel Justin Burchett and Alan Haig to discuss progress on the additional parking area as well as clearing debris from the area.

Next **Finance/Fundraising** was considered. Osawatomi Trails Task has an unencumbered balance of \$145,350.47. To date the project has raised \$336,716 and has paid expenses totaling \$191,365.53. Osawatomi Trail Task Force has been awarded a Sunflower Grant which will reimburse \$55,000 in costs for construction. The application for a second round \$5000 promotion grant is due in July. The group has received an additional Hawkins grant in the amount of \$25,000 and \$10,000 from First Option Bank. Fuchs said the application for a \$2500 WalMart grant is in progress. It is estimated that an additional \$70,000 must be raised to fund finishing the trail, abutments, bridge and its installation, and the Trailhead.

With regard to **Promotion/Communications**, it was noted that Dorsett and Lamirande will coordinate local activities for Rhythm & Ride to be held April 25-26. We will provide music, burgers and brats from 12:00-3:00 at Karl E. Cole Sports Complex. The charge for food will be \$5-\$6 per plate with a goal of raising \$500.

Next meeting: 5:00 pm, Wednesday, April 1, 2020 -- Osawatomi City Hall Conference Room