

Minutes of Olmsted County Stagecoach Trail Study Group

March 17, 2011

The Olmsted County Stagecoach Trail Study Group met at 6:00 PM Thursday March 17, 2011 at The Byron City Hall at 680 Byron Main Court NE Byron, MN 55920 507 775-3400

In attendance were: Dave Sletten – Byron Park Board, Dick Leonard & Grumpy Sell – DCTA, Guy Kohlhofer – Dodge County Engineer, Joel Wagar, Diane Anderson & Jenny Wood – MnDNR, Dave Rossman & John Dinusson – BPAC Members.

General Committee Business: ROCOG has a vacancy on the BPAC committee and applications are available from Muhammad Khan at the County Planning Department, (328-7134). We looked at the 3-month look-ahead schedule and agreed to recontact the horse group and keep the public display boards up at least three months.

Trail Planning: We continued our discussion of the Stagecoach Trail through Kalmar Township. The three MnDNR staff members presented the draft Master Plan. It is very close to final department acceptance. Our group still has time to send in comments. The trail spans two of the MnDNR Districts and both managers are looking at the document. Once it has been approved by the Department heads it will go onto the MnDNR website for public access. The MnDNR anticipates holding the open house events within the next two months, and will probably have two or possibly three sites. The event format will be similar to the initial ones where an Open House format is used. Our Study Group role is to reserve a space at the Bryon City Hall for the event, provide snacks and invite families and groups. The following comments were generated during the meeting:

1. Update any references to population to the 2010 data.
2. Don't mark a preferred route.
3. Add a paragraph about the health benefits of trails.
4. Study Group members should look closely at Section 4: Trail management.
5. Is there a community education program that could be coordinated with the new trail?
6. Section 5 – Provide some website links to other sites for specific information.
7. Add Dodge County historical maps and photos.

Three local businesses have granted permission to install for us to display the study area map. Joel provided the maps and Dave Sletten will deliver them. The businesses are The Credit Union, Otto's Bakery, The Bear's Den, and the City Hall.

DCTA: Dick discussed their trip to Parks & Trails "Day on the Hill" on March 16th. They met many of the Legislators and received positive feedback. Trail bonding is not anticipated in 2011. They are proceeding with the assistance of the Dodge County Engineer on studying the alignment and grades of the segment east of Mantorville to the Olmsted County Line. The TRAM Run is scheduled for July 25th, 2011 and the event sponsors are looking for volunteers to staff a STOP location on CR#4, contact Jim Subra at home.

Look to the Action Items for your assignments. Continue to review the routes discussed in the field. The next meeting will be at the Byron City Hall on **4-21-2011 at 6:00 PM.**

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Volunteer to help at the Open House events.
2. Continue to provide comments on the Draft Master Plan.
3. Consider volunteering for the TRAM event.
4. Invite friends and users to the Open House events.

Prepared by David Rossman
Chair of Olmsted County Stagecoach Trail Study Group