

## 1. CALL TO ORDER (4:06 p.m.)

## 2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Barkalow, Billings, Brandt, Neilly, Prouty, Staashelm, Thayer, Whyte  
Guests: Craig Rairdin

## 3. MINUTES

- a. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee – August 28, 2019  
Motion by Whyte, seconded by Thayer, to approve the minutes.  
All 'Ayes', minutes approved.

## 4. IOWA WALKING COLLEGE (UPDATE)

Billings updated the Committee on her involvement with the Iowa Walking College and the experience she had over the previous 5 months. She noted that it was comprised of in-person and video meetings with a variety of speakers that encouraged participants to look at walkability in all aspects of our built environment. She noted that in the spring of 2020 she anticipated having the Committee complete a walking audit to really look at accessibility in Marion. She noted that her time spent on the Walking College was worth while and invited others to participate in coming years.

5. 5<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE CONNECTION TO GRANT WOOD TRAIL

Billings brought up the continued desire to connect the residential neighborhood south of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the Grant Wood Trail. The Committee discussed connection difficulties along 31<sup>st</sup> Street because of current sidewalk gaps, existing storm sewer intakes, or steep driveways.

The Committee then discussed the potential for connection along the future 27<sup>th</sup> Street right-of-way. Whyte noted that this gap would be eligible for Safe Routes to Schools funding through the CMPO. If it were successful in being funded, the soonest the project would be completed is 2022. Brandt asked if a more temporary (limestone) solution could be done in the interim, understanding it would be replaced with standard street and sidewalk when that connection is made as a part of future redevelopment of the surrounding properties. Brandt asked Staashelm to look into the cost and ability of the Parks Department to make the temporary connection.

## 6. TRAIL ETIQUETTE SUGGESTIONS

Billings noted that after the discussion regarding pets on a leash, there was more feedback from a walker's perspective on how cyclists could be more courteous on the trails as well. Billings noted that the City website does have a short list of trail etiquette that include pets on a leash, keeping the trail clean, staying alert, no horses, and no motorized vehicles. After discussion, the Committee decided that items that could be added are: Bikers slow when passing, pass on the left, alert upcoming trail users of your intent to pass, and allow for adequate space between you and the person you are passing.

The Committee then discussed having the trail etiquette posted on the trail head kiosks, but also discussed having temporary signage made so that the signs could be moved to various trails to bring more awareness. Whyte suggested that was maybe something that could be done by the CMPO, he would check into it. The Committee also discussed continuing to have trail etiquette printed in the Marion Messenger. Billings informed the Committee that she would bring this up again and to continue to be thinking about desired trail etiquette.

7. SIGN STANDARDS FOR NEW TRAILS

The Committee discussed the desire not to overwhelm the trail with signs that people become accustomed to, but rather what are the needed signs, and what are the signs that are better for just trail heads. Billings noted that the CMPO had already approved and will pay for mile markers along the major trails in the Metro area (½-mile increments), and for wayfinding signage with distance indicators to major destinations or trail connectors. The Committee also discussed the desire to have 'pets on a leash' reminders along the trail. The Committee then discuss trail adoption/signage and providing bags for picking up after pets, but for various reasons, those were not favored to be provided along the trails.

8. OTHER BUSINESS.

The Committee discussed ideas for the 2020 Hotel Motel funding application such as special paint on the trails that appears during rain events, or benches and trash receptacles along the trail. Billings noted she would begin a list that the Committee could discuss in the spring.

Prouty informed the Committee that the Uptown Survey results indicated a low ranking in a favorability of the City's bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the Uptown. Billings noted that bike racks are scattered throughout the uptown but could always use more installation near businesses. She commented that once the central corridor gets done not only will it act as a major trail connection to bring more bikers into Uptown, it will also lessen the traffic on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to make that street more bike friendly.

9. ADJOURN.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Scott, Secretary