



BRAINERD RIVERFRONT MEETING

June 7, 2018
3:00–5:00 p.m.

Brainerd Lakes Chamber of Commerce - 213 South 5th Street
Brainerd, MN 56401

Our Vision – Maximize our Mississippi Riverfront by creating recreational, economic, and cultural opportunities for Brainerd’s residents and visitors.

Attendees: Rod Osterloh, Jim Roloef, Don Gorham, Jennifer Bergman, Erik Roberts, Ashley Storm, Holly Holm, Heidi Peper, and Ashley Kaisershot.

1) COLLABORATION MEETING UPDATES

a) Cuyuna Lakes Trail Association

An official transition from Cuyuna Country to within the City of Brainerd is in the works. There is a CLTA board meeting in September. Updates will be shared with the group as this evolves and transpires.

b) GMRPTC Task Force Meeting

Team members are evaluating a tool to help depict the corridor and project locations. SEH gave a GIS demo of the interactive GIS portal that was designed to accompany the application, but also aid in the analysis portion of our process. The platform could be available for public use. SEH will provide cost estimates.

c) Community Giving

A brief presentation was giving to the Community Giving board. As a part of the tour, board members stopped at the riverfront to discuss efforts made to date.

2) PROJECT UPDATES

a) General Project Discussion

A Brainerd resident spoke towards opposition of trail development north of Washington Street. The BRC will work to increase outreach and information sharing on projects when they come to fruition.

b) Banner Project

Banners have been hung on the identified light poles within the project area. Discussion occurred around the installation height of the banners and inquired on the option to lower them. Dollars will be needed to pay BPU to lower the banners. The committee will work to continue the expansion of the banner program. A recommendation was made for the committee to work on a wayfinding campaign.

c) Plaza Area/Hiking Trail at Steamboat Landing

The city toured the proposed plaza site and identified a small section of the riverfront where buck thorn and invasive species could be remediated. A future meeting with SWCD will be held to determine the scope of work.

The concept of the temporary access to the river is not a feasible project at this time. Discussion occurred if the plaza site should be relocated south to Kiwanis Park. A final decision was not decided.

d) Title/Survey RFP at Proposed Plaza Site

A consultant was awarded and contracted to complete the title search and ALTA survey. Completion is expected for the end of June.

3) Bonding Bill Update

An update on the legislative session was provided. Our proposal, *The Brainerd lakes Area Trail Package* did not make the bill. The team will re-evaluate the process and develop a strong message and narrative for future opportunities.

4) Upcoming Event Identification – Sub-committees needed

A series of possible new events were discussed i.e., sidewalk chalk event, art pub walk. Sub-committees will be needed. It was discussed to hold off on these events until a different time. A series of volunteers have stepped forward and these events could be an opportunity to get them engaged and involved.

The City of Brainerd will be holding a weekly farmer's market downtown. The BRC was invited to have a booth. A. Kaisershot will send out a sign-up sheet on "shifts" for the market through the remainder of the summer.

5) White Park Marker

A marker was designed and will be located at the proposed plaza site.

6) Canoe Days (August 4)

The committee will have an informational booth for the second year in a row at Canoe Days (August 4). More information on set up and tear down will be shared as it becomes available. Two members from the BRC will be present.

7) National Park Service Technical Assistance Application

An application will be submitted to the NPS for trail development and funding assistance from Rotary Riverside Park north to the Washington Bridge. Application is due June 30. Selected candidates will be noted in November.

The next meet is scheduled July 5th at 3:00-5:00 p.m. at the Brainerd Lakes Area Chamber.

Our staff believes that this document accurately reflects the business that occurred during the meeting. If any member feels the minutes contain errors, omissions and/or inconsistencies, persons should notify Ashley Kaisershot at Ashley.kaisershot@njpacoop.org. The meeting minutes will be considered approved if feedback isn't received within seven (7) days.