



BRAINERD RIVERFRONT MEETING

November 1, 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: John Forrest, Don Gorham, Tony Sailer, Jeff Ledin, Jim Roloefs, Jennifer Jacquot-DeVries, Kent Montgomery, Holly Holm, Ashley Storm, Ashley Kaisershot

1) GENERAL UPDATES

a) Welcome New Members

John Forrest, Interim Co-Chair, officially welcomed new member, Ross Ladehoff, to the committee.

b) National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program – *new item*

The committee learned that their application was selected as a project recipient for 2018/2019. Work will begin with Holly Larson at the NPS in the month of November. Holly will attend the December BRC meeting.

2) PROJECT UPDATES

a. Mississippi Landing Trailhead (determined new site name*)**

Brainerd Park Director gave an overview on the process on dedicating the parcel as a park. Conversation occurred on determining a park name. “White Park” was discussed and was recognized at Brainerd History Week. A possible maintenance agreement could be in place once negotiations on the parcel(s) is complete with ISD 181. A meeting with city leadership and ISD 181 leaders will need to occur. Recommended that the city take the lead on the development of the site.

b. Riverfront Trail Feasibility Study

Waiting for approval from Council on outcome of funding request. Outcome to be shared once determination has been made.

c. Rotary Riverside Park

A partial re-design of the gateway structure is underway. Construction of the structure has been postponed. Rotary Riverside Park was awarded the Crow Wing County Conservationist Award. Buckthorn density mapping is occurring at the park in collaboration with CLC. Maps will be created to illustrate the variations in buckthorn densities in a portion of the park. Riverfront coordinator to look at city’s invasive species policy.

3) OCTOBER MEETINGS

a) River to Rails

Meetings will occur bi-yearly. Meeting minutes will be submitted to the riverfront committee as a part of their packet. Co-chair Gorham will continue to represent the riverfront committee on the “public spaces and trail” engine.

b) Cuyuna Lakes Trail Association

A special meeting will be held to elect a new board of directors and officers. A meeting on November 14th is tentatively scheduled for area legislators to learn of the Cuyuna Lakes Trail Association relocation. The BRC requests to be a part of this meeting.

**Since the November BRC meeting, the Nov 14th meeting was cancelled.*

4) BRC WORKING SESSION AND PRIORITY PROJECT REVIEW

a) Review of Project Titles and Terminology

A draft narrative around our project spaces was presented. This narrative will also be a part of an initiative update we share with area legislators.

The following tasks have been, or in the process, of being completed. This list will be shared as a part of our presentation to the BLACF for quarter 4 funding in early-November:

- Develop a concise narrative outlining our project goals
- Grow the committee to full membership
- Work to complete the trail feasibility study
- Reach out to other committees and collaborate on walkability initiatives
- Move the Mississippi Landing Trailhead (MLT) project forward
- Celebrate our success with CLC

b) Draft Legislative Update

Changes to the *Brainerd Riverfront Implementation Design Report* were requested to better reflect the changes that have been to date. Riverfront Coordinator to compile documents to form a package that can be submitted to the City Administrator. Click [here](#) for report.

5) COMMITTEE EVENTS

a) Great River Run – July 2019

The BRC to become the main organizer for the event. Possible location at Lum Park. Opportunity to involve the Kiwanis club for a potential picnic. Various interviewees will be needed. A welcome and send-off group is encouraged (run, bike, walk, cheer, etc.)

b) Kayak Paddle – July 2019

A possible re-occurring event in an effort to gain exposure to the river, also to complement Canoe Days in August.

c) East River Road Art Walk – Summer 2019

Discussion on a re-occurring event that could activate the street by the Mississippi Landing Trailhead. Program to be developed but could be an opportunity to integrate the arts community and celebrate sense of place.

6) OTHER

The City of Brainerd/Brainerd Riverfront Committee was selected by the National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program. Work to begin in December and continue through 2019 around non-motorized trail improvements. Riverfront Coordinator met with

University of Minnesota Extension staff around the possibility of a market study for riverfront trail improvements. It was determined that it was too small of a scale to measure. A meeting will be held with CLC art faculty around public art collaboration opportunities. The final presentation for the BLACF Difference Maker Grant will be presented on November 8th.

The next meet is scheduled December 6th 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@sourcewell-mn.gov. The meeting minutes will be considered approved If feedback isn't received within seven (7) days.