



AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Agenda Item number: 3.b

Title: Active River Project Update – Information Only

Presenter: Chris Adesso

Meeting: Government Services Committee

Date: June 26, 2017

Proposed Cost: \$ N/A

Budgeted Amount: \$ N/A

Not Budgeted:

Executive Summary *(if not budgeted please explain):*

The Active River Task Force wishes to provide the Council Committee updates on the status of topics pertaining to the Active River Project/Concept. The Task Force offers the attached information to the Committee. A member of the Task Force will be available at each of the Government Services Committee meetings to respond to any questions or comments that the Council Committee may have.

Attachments *(please list):*

* May 15, 2017 – Task Force Meeting Minutes

Recommendation/Suggested Action *(briefly explain):*

None – For information only.

**MINUTES
ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING
ST. CHARLES
JOHN RABCHUK, CHAIRMAN
MAY 15, 2017**

Members Present: Chair. John Rabchuk, Chris Adesso, Trish Beckjord,
Rick Brems, Holly Cabel, Jim Enck

Members Absent: Chris Bong, Monica Meyers, John Wessel

Others Present: Tom Anderson, Isabel Soderlind

1. Call to Order

The meeting was convened by John Rabchuk at 8:02 a.m.

2. Minutes Review and Approval

Motion was made to accept and place on file the minutes of the May 1, 2017 Active River Task Force meeting minutes.

Motion by Trish Beckjord second Holly Cabel, to accept and place the minutes on file.

Voice vote: Ayes: unanimous; Nays – None Absent: Chris Bong, Monica Meyers, John Wessel

Motion carried at 8:02 a.m.

3. Member Organization Updates

A. St. Charles Park District

i. Status of Boy Scout Island

Per Holly Cabel, the boat ramp and affiliated parking project at Boy Scout Island will most likely begin this summer. Discussions are taking place on the next phase of this project.

- ii. Engineering Feasibility Study Presentation to the St. Charles Park Board Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2017. The presentation will be similar to that being given to the Government Services Committee meeting, June 26.

B. City of St. Charles

- i. Engineering Feasibility Study Presentation at the Government Services Committee meeting, Monday, June 26, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Greg Chismark from WBK and Chris Adesso will be presenting the findings of the Feasibility Study at the June Government Services Committee meeting. At least one of the concept option(s) with the correlating estimated cost for the Phase I DE will be presented. At this point in time, the concept(s) being presented is still

undetermined. Chris will contact Greg next week and schedule a meeting to coordinate the presentation. Once the presentation is finalized, Chris will forward Holly Cabel the information that will be covered in the presentation.

The task group discussed the focus of the June 26 Government Services Committee meeting. It was recommended the presentation focus on the results of the feasibility study before moving forward. Overall, the study provides encouraging answers to all of the questions that prompted the study effort and suggests that regulatory approval can probably be obtained

- a. Update on the additional Active River Project (hereafter referred to as the “ARP”) agenda item to the June Government Services Committee meeting.

John Rabchuk requested another ARP item be added to the June agenda to discuss next steps to the ARP project. Mark Koenen suggested waiting until the rest of the agenda for that June 26 meeting is submitted before he commits to adding another item.

- b. Preparation for the Government Services Committee Meeting.

In the meantime, John Rabchuk recommended scheduling a meeting with the three entities that have riparian rights to the river. He would like to update the other three property owners on the current status of the ARP prior to the Government Services meeting. All have been part of the original stakeholders meetings, but it has been a while since the ARP has communicated with them. The members present felt it was a good idea to keep all those entities informed.

C. River Corridor Foundation

No update.

4. Update on Second Meeting with Potential Corporate/Philanthropic Funding Source

A. Update on May 10 , 2017 Meeting with Corporate/Philanthropic donor

John mentioned the potential corporate funding source is very anxious to meet again. The meeting may occur on June 8th, but it is not finalized as of yet. John Rabchuk is hopeful for a significant commitment from both the corporate and the philanthropic donor over two to three years.

B. Initial Meeting with Dunham Foundation

John Rabchuk also contacted the Dunham Fund. John met with the representatives from the foundation and it appears the ARP fits some of the foundation’s objectives. Grant applications are awarded on Feb 28 and June 1. At the end of the meeting, the representatives encouraged the ARP to apply for the February submission. The application is due by February 1.

The members also had a several side discussions that included:

- The potential funding for the engineering plans and how to raise those funds.

- How this project is different from anything the city has done before and this project may need to take a different approach. This is not a standard public works project, but rather a comprehensive plan for the river and riverfront; yet different from the general city Comprehensive Plan in that it will require a call to action for capital as well as operational funding as well as management. The ARP is a type of project that is a collaboration of various projects funded by several organizations/groups. For example, Kiwanis is very interested in creating a Splash Park. They monies could come from various sources, but the land to build the park would need to be a donated. Or, there may be components of the connecting cycle and walking trails that could be assisted by the Kane County Forest Preserve or Grand Victoria Riverboat Fund. Private and corporate donations could be solicited for other components.
- Applications for grant (federal and state) for design, engineering and construction will need to be made by a public entity once they are identified.
- The option of outsourcing to a professional group for various aspects of this project. This includes companies that not only design the project with “sell” the project e.g., Hitchcock and S2O Design. This also includes fundraising, grant writing, marketing. The members also discussed how these costs should be incorporated in the overall cost of the project.
- What funds will be used to support the operating/maintenance costs of the Active River Project in the future? Where will this money generate from?
- A possibility to create a leadership/task force group to drive the next steps of this project that will include fundraising, grant writing, marketing materials, etc. to continue to drive this project forward was discussed.
- Review Hitchcock’s master plan for suggestions moving forward. The task force members agreed that much of the Phase One tasks identified in the Hitchcock plan have been accomplished by the task force, but that the steps identified in Phase Two will require a new structure and authority.

5. Marketing, Publicity and Community Outreach

A. Pottawatomie Garden Club Presentation

A presentation to Pottawatomie Garden Club is scheduled for Monday, July 24, 2017, from 1:00-1:45 p.m. at Baker Methodist Church.

6. Other

A. Meeting with Mark Koenen scheduled for June 7.

John Rabchuk and Holly Cabel have a meeting scheduled with Mark Koenen for June 7th.

The members of the group also discussed the status of the visit to Falls Park in Greenville, South Carolina. At this point in time, the visit has not been scheduled. The recommendation was made to resurrect that discussion with Mark Koenen.

B. Karen Miller’s Presentation at the June River Corridor Foundation Meeting

Trish Beckjord informed everyone that Karen Miller will be presenting at the June River Corridor Foundation meeting. Topic for the presentation: the Fox River Trail.

C. Update on the Wind Emotion Sculpture on Route 31.

The lighting for the sculpture is being worked on. The Electric Utility is working on completing this project but several items need to be completed before connecting the electric source to the lights.

Tom Anderson mentioned the visual obstruction of a a stop sign as you leave the parking lot of the sculpture and into Route 31. The stop sign is blocking the view of the sculpture from the road and was wondering if the stop sign could be removed. Chris Adesso will speak with the Police Department to determine if it can be removed.

7. Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for June 5 at 8:00 a.m. at the Baker Memorial Community Center; meetings will occur every 2 weeks moving forward.

Motion by Rick Brems to adjourn the meeting, second by Holly Cabel.

Voice vote: Ayes: unanimous; Nays – None Absent: Chris Bong, Monica Meyers, John Wessel

-Motion carried at 9:13 a.m.