



AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Agenda Item number: 3.b

Title: Active River Project Update – Information Only
Presenter: Chris Adesso

Meeting: Government Services Committee Date: August 22, 2016

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):*

* July 11, 2016 - Task Force Meeting Minutes * July 25, 2016 – Task Force Meeting Minutes

Recommendation/Suggested Action *(briefly explain):*

None – For information only.

**MINUTES
ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING
ST. CHARLES
JOHN RABCHUK, CHAIRMAN
JULY 11, 2016**

Members Present: Chair John Rabchuk, Chris Adesso, Chris Bong, Trish Beckjord, Rick Brems, Jim Enck, John Wessel

Members Absent: Holly Cabel, Monica Meyers

Others Present: Isabel Soderlind

Visitors Present:

1. Call to Order

The meeting was convened by John Rabchuk at 8:03 a.m.

2. Minutes Review and Approval

Motion to accept and place on file the minutes of the June 27, 2016 Active River Task Force meeting.

Motion by Trish Beckjord, second by Rick Brems to accept and place the minutes on file.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None; Absent: Holly Cabel, Monica Meyers,

Motion carried at 8:04 a.m.

3. Task Force Updates

A. Update on St Charles Park District Related Active River Projects

None

B. Forest Preserve/Park District Update

None

C. Grant Applications Update

i. Bob Leonard Walk Update

John Rabchuk, Jim Enck, John Wessel, Chris Bong and Chris Adesso will be meeting with Peter Suhr next week, July 19. They will discuss the enhanced landscaping and furnishing phase of the Bob Leonard Walk. The discussion will include the permit process, council approval process, project management, coverage of costs, management of payments, etc.

The Active River Project (ARP) is also scheduled to present at the July 25 Government Services Committee (GSC) meeting. John Rabchuk will outline the proposed

improvements to the Bob Leonard Walk and the kinetic sculpture on Johansen’s Island. He will be seeking the approval of the plans presented. The July 25 presentation will also include the approval of budgeted engineering funds related to the structural requirements and placement of the kinetic sculpture.

John Rabchuk reviewed the following funding sources, amounts and related information of projected monies:

Funding Source	Amount	Payable	Restrictions	Comments
River Corridor Foundation	\$20,000	On demand	None	Awaiting decision
Pride of The Fox Funds	\$10,000	On demand	Kinetic sculpture	Awaiting decision
Community Foundation of FRV	\$12,250	Upon Completion	Per Grant Application	
Grand Victoria Riverboat Grant	\$17,750	Upon Completion	Per Grant Application	
City of St. Charles	\$40,000	TBD	Kinetic Sculpture Engineering	In budget - not yet approved
Anderson Family Trust		TBD	Purchase of sculpture and shipment	Amount to be determined once site plan and sculpture design is final
TOTAL FUNDS	\$100,000			

- The River Foundation has received notice that they will be receiving \$17,700 out of the \$20,000 requested for the Bob Leonard Walk and kinetic sculpture project
- The grants can only be used for the purpose requested. The Pride of the Fox Funds can only be used for the kinetic sculpture.
- John Rabchuk has received a couple of inquiries from community members that would like to make contributions toward memorial benches (\$900 to \$1,000 each) and trees, thus potentially freeing up some of the funds for other parts of the project.
- Grant funds will be paid after the work is completed. Monies will be reimbursed after the invoices are submitted.

Jim Enck suggested utilizing some of the funds to replace the trees and shrubs that have died along the southwest corner of the bridge. Trish Beckjord also recommended planting some of the trees next to benches for shade.

The group also discussed some furnishing details. The plan calls for eight benches along the Bob Leonard Walk. Chris Adesso and Chris Bong have noted the benches may be too close to the bike path/sidewalk; there should be a 3 foot clearance. They will check the guidelines.

ii. Johansen Island Sculpture Project

The City of St. Charles has budgeted approximately \$40,000 in this year’s fiscal budget for the engineering study in regards to the structural integrity of Johansen Island; this estimated cost of this project could be as high as \$100,000.

The exact donation for the kinetic sculptures is yet to be defined but the River Corridor Committee has requested additional grant monies from the Riverboat Grant to cover any additional costs. John Rabchuk reminded everyone that the installation cost of the sculpture(s) is separate from the purchase of the actual kinetic sculpture(s).

The Active Task Force members began to discuss the option of moving the kinetic sculptures to the river bank/ “dryland” instead of the island. Chris Adesso mentioned it would be huge cost savings in time, labor, equipment, permit applications, etc. Chris Bong indicated placing the sculptures on “dry land” would shorten the permit processing time. If the sculptures were placed on the island, the permitting process could take more than a year to be approved. Chris Adesso indicated that if the group was considering moving the sculptures to another site he would need to know as soon as possible. He is planning to take this particular item to the July 25 GSC meeting.

John Rabchuk stated he would contact Tom Anderson after the meeting and discuss the option of an alternative location(s).

iii. Engineering – Feasibility Study

The City, St. Charles Park District and River Corridor met and have agreed on the funding framework for the engineering feasibility study; this framework has yet to be presented to or approved by the Park Board or to the City Council. This proposed framework will be presented at the July 25 GSC meeting. Per John Rabchuk, Mayor Rogina has expressed support for the feasibility study funding proposal. The framework suggests that the Park District will be asked to re-allocate approximately \$40,000 towards engineering feasibility study; these monies had already been approved for other aspects of the Active River Project. The River Corridor Foundation also approved a contribution of \$5,000 for this project. Chris Adesso will need to know the total amount the Park District will be donating so he can update the City staff and request a budget add from City Council.

Per John Rabchuk, Mark Koenen indicated the trip to Greenville, South Carolina will be postponed until after the feasibility study is completed. It is estimated the study will take six to eight months to complete. Mark Koenen and Holly Cable will write the intergovernmental agreement for managing the feasibility study contract and funding. Chris Adesso will present it to Council.

In addition, John Rabchuk mentioned the presentation to the Park District Board went well. The information presented at the June 14 meeting was well received and the commissioners expressed a strong support for the Active River Project.

iv. Marketing

John Rabchuk mentioned this Task Force should consider a press release once the location of the sculpture is finalized. The press release should also include the Corridor Foundation, Riverboat Fund and any others who have been financially instrumental in supporting this project.

D. Meetings and Presentations

Mr. Rabchuk stated he will be presenting to the St. Charles Downtown Partnership Board at the State Bank on August 10 at 10:30 a.m. This Board includes members from the Chamber of Commerce, Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Historical Commission. Trish Beckjord recommended the Downtown Partnership presentation should be more of a facilitated discussion. The presentation should be more informational in an effort to gain additional ideas and enhance the “buy-in” from the Partnership. A cover letter and

the reports regarding the other “model” cities”, prepared by Trish Beckjord for the last GSC meeting, should be sent to Jenna Sawicki before the presentation. This would give the Downtown Partnership the opportunity to study the information before the meeting, thus increasing the input from the Partnership board members. The photo poster board, created by Rick Brems, can be the backdrop to this presentation. John Rabchuk suggested Chris Bong invite Rita Tungare and Matt O’Rourke, from Community Development/Economic Development, to this presentation.

E. Other Outreach Efforts

Private Fund Raising: No updates available at this time; still awaiting City commitment.

4. Other and New Business

None

5. Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for July 25 at 8:00 a.m. at the Baker Community Center.

Motion by Jim Enck to adjourn the meeting, second by Rick Brems.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None Absent: Holly Cabel, Monica Meyers

-Motion carried at 9:07 a.m.

MINUTES
ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING
BAKER COMMUNITY CENTER, ST. CHARLES, ILLINOIS
JOHN RABCHUK, CHAIRMAN
JULY 25, 2016

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

Members Absent: Monica Meyers Chris Bong

Others Present: Tom Anderson, Ed Werneke, Tony Zehnder, Candy Boulay

Visitors Present: none

Call to Order

The meeting was convened by John Rabchuk at 8:09 a.m.

Minutes Review and Approval

Motion to accept and place on file the minutes of the July 11, 2016 Active River Task Force Meeting. Motion by Trish Beckjord, second by Jim Enck to accept and place the minutes on file.

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

Motion carried at 8:09 a.m.

Communication and Marketing Update

Task Force Updates

Park District

Holly Cabel reviewed funds for grant projects but stated work was stopped due to funds not being released by the State of Illinois. Holly stated this has happened to many projects throughout the state.

John Rabchuk stated the committee would appreciate any assistance with grant applications from John Wessel based on his experience.

John Rabchuk stated a meeting was held with the City's Public Works Department to discuss landscaping and furnishings for the Bob Leonard Walk between Prairie and Indiana. It was decided the kinetic sculpture would best be placed on the west bank of the river rather than the island due to costs associated with the island location. John shared an aerial view of the stairs at the location which would need to be repaired. Tom Anderson stated a plaque at the site near the sculpture would show history of the area. John Rabchuk stated signage should also recognize the

Anderson family for their donation of the kinetic sculpture. Tom Anderson he would cover any shortfall for cost of the installation of the sculpture.

Chris Adesso reviewed items for the Government Services Meeting which will take place this evening. The Public Works Department will request approval of the new site for the kinetic sculpture, to accept the donation from River Corridor and to utilize previously budgeted (engineering analysis of Johannsen's Island) ARP funds, and authorization to allow the River Corridor Foundation to donate and install significant landscaping and furnishing enhancements (subject to City approval) along the Bob Leonard Walkway. An ordinance revision will be requested at a later date to eliminate two parking spots near the walkway.

John Rabchuk stated there have been several requests from community members to learn more about contributing funds towards memorial benches and trees as part of the project. Chris Adesso stated it was important to go through the Park District to purchase benches and/or trees for this project.

Rowing

John Rabchuk reviewed changes to the rowing programs in St. Charles. Holly Cabel stated programming would still continue under new management. The City of St. Charles has approved the installation of a portable launch dock for St. Charles Rowing underneath the Red Gate Bridge.

Engineering

John Rabchuk stated there will be no delegation to Greenville until a feasibility study has been completed. John stated he recently visited Greenville and cited the downtown had a very international feel to it.

Marketing

A discussion took place regarding the renaming of the "RiverPark" as shown in the concept plan area of the project. Rick Brems stated the current name is recognizable; it may be premature at this time to select a different name.

Meetings and Presentations

An update will be presented to the Downtown St. Charles Partnership Board on Wednesday, August 10, 2016. The Board includes members from the Chamber of Commerce, the Convention & Visitor's Bureau and the Historical Commission. Trish Beckjord stated at some point in time a new group should form which would include community members; next steps would be addressed.

The St. Charles Chamber of Commerce has asked for a brief update on the project at the August meeting.

John Rabchuk will see if a presentation may be made before the Fox Valley Board of Realtors; this may also be a possible willing delegation to go to Greenville.

Dale Luecht of the River Corridor Foundation is coordinating efforts on water quality testing and is working with D303, Friends of the Fox, Sierra Club, FREP, park district staff and Dorene Tieche, a teacher at Munhall School.

A presentation will take place in early 2017 with the Pottawatomie Garden Club.

Other and New Business

Chris Adesso stated the City's Tree Commission may be taking a new direction. The commission is seeking to expand from urban forestry to other environmental issues within the City. A new mission statement would need to be developed and a revision to the City code would need to take place.

Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at Baker Community Center.

Motion by Trish Beckjord to adjourn the meeting, second by Rick Brems

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None; Absent: Monica Meyers, Chris Bong - Motion carried at 9:13 a.m.