



AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Agenda Item number: 3.b

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

Meeting: Government Services Committee Date: February 27, 2017

Proposed Cost: \$ N/A	Budgeted Amount: \$ N/A	Not Budgeted: <input type="checkbox"/>
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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):*

* January 9, 2017 - Task Force Meeting Minutes

Recommendation/Suggested Action *(briefly explain):*

None – For information only.

MINUTES

ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING

POTTAWATOMIE COMMUNITY CENTER, ST. CHARLES, ILLINOIS

JOHN RABCHUK, CHAIRMAN

JANUARY 9, 2017

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

Members Absent: Chris Bong, Monica Meyers, John Wessel

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

Visitors Present: none

Call to Order

The meeting was convened by John Rabchuk at 8:07 a.m.

Minutes Review and Approval

Motion to accept and place on file the minutes of the December 5, 2016 Active River Task Force Meeting. Motion by Chris Adesso, second by Rick Brems to accept and place the minutes on file.

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

Motion carried at 8:07 a.m.

Update on Preliminary Meeting

John Rabchuk stated that he, Mark Koenen and Holly Cabel recently met with a potential sponsor with the intent of promoting the project as a fitness and wellness program. The meeting went well. Future meetings will be planned.

Trish Beckjord asked if it was possible to involve other government agencies into the discussion concerning project design elements as well as potential sponsors. John Rabchuk stated that may be looked at in the future. Based upon what other communities have experienced with similar projects, ARP will need to target something like \$4-5M in private or corporate philanthropic contributions to the project construction.

Member Organization Updates

St. Charles Park District

A discussion took place regarding the Boy Scout Island concept plans. Phil Held stated he recently spoke to David Yocca of Conservation Design Forum regarding the floating islands that CDF is building in Lake Ellyn in Glen Ellyn to investigate if such structures could be built in the logoon behind Boy Scout Island. Phil stated that in a project to be constructed on the north branch of the Chicago River this spring there will be 15-20 floating islands; they attract fishing; the materials are recyclable; they are tethered to anchors; there is some maintenance involved; the islands are floating mats.

Trish Beckjord discussed marshlands and the opportunity to create an ecosystem. Rick Brems stated the idea is similar to what is being construction on the Chicago River. Trish asked if the committee is fixed on floating or would consider alternative design elements for that site.

Trish Beckjord asked what the clear goals are for programming this area; how are we programming the site; are there possible grants; recreational ideas; how do ideas relate to goals? Ms. Beckjord asked if a bird sanctuary has been considered or other ideas which are ecologically focused. John Rabchuk stated the concept of floating islands may be a possible project for Kiwanians as the Kiwanis group has been involved in shoreline clean up over the last several years and is currently in the process of asking the community for ideas of potential “signature projects” that would help the clubs visibility in the community.

Holly Cabel stated recreational and ecological goals will be implemented in the plans. Ms. Beckjord stated it was important to consider all alternatives. Mr. Rabchuk noted that at this time there is not a completed design, only some broad concepts; but the current engineering feasibility study will help to bring design alternatives into focus.

Phil Held stated he would contact landscape architect David Yocca to seek advice and suggested that David might be able to attend a future ARP meeting where he could share design and cost information as well as to discuss alternative design elements that may be appropriate for the ARP.

City of St. Charles

Chris Adesso stated it would be important to develop a Watershed Master Plan. In order to receive grants it is highly recommended to present the plan; the committee should look into this further.

River Corridor Foundation

John Rabchuk reported the landscaping and furnishing project for the Bob Leonard Walkway is underway; furnishings will be installed as weather permits.

City of St. Charles

Tom Anderson stated plaques will be installed near the kinetic sculpture. Future plans may include a bench. Tom asked that Jim Enck create a plan for the site to present at the next meeting. Jim Enck stated a Master Plan should be created for the site to also include handicap accessibility.

Chris Adesso stated casing will be grouted for the installation of the kinetic sculpture. Trish Beckjord asked about pouring a bench pad.

Marketing

Rick Brems shared a revised marketing piece. Tom Anderson asked that two large buildings shown on the marketing piece be removed as they are not actually on the site. Trish Beckjord suggested the words “ecological and/or environmental improvement” be added to the marketing piece.

A Facebook page for the project will be discussed at the next meeting.

Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at Baker Community Center in the Peterson Lounge.

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

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

Motion carried at 9:14 a.m.