



AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title: Active River Project Update –Information Only

Presenter: Chris Adesso

Please check appropriate box:

	Government Operations	X	Government Services – 03.28.2016
	Planning & Development		City Council
	Public Hearing		

Estimated Cost:	\$0.00	Budgeted:	YES		NO	
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Executive Summary:

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)*

February 8, 2016 - Task Force Meeting Minutes
 February 22, 2016 – Task Force Meeting Minutes

Recommendation / Suggested Action *(briefly explain):*

None – For information only

For office use only: *Agenda Item Number: 3.c*

MINUTES
ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING
ST. CHARLES
JOHN RABCHUK, CHAIRMAN
FEBRUARY 8, 2016

Members Present: Chair John Rabchuk, Chris Bong, Rick Brems, Holly Cabel, Jim Enck, John Wessel

Members Absent: Chris Adesso, Monica Meyers

Others Present: Ed Werneke, Tony Zehnder, Tom Anderson, 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 January 25, 2016 Active River Task Force meeting.
Motion by Holly Cabel, second Rick Brems to accept and place the minutes on file.

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

Motion carried at 8:04 a.m.

3. Communications and Marketing Update

Rick Brems has met with a couple of vendors regarding the Active River Project marketing materials. He received a quote of \$75/hour from Alpha Graphics, but he was not sure if this vendor was best qualified to develop the branding and logo for the Active River Project.

Mr. Brems also met with Erin Maresko, a graphic designer and web developer, from 25 N Coworking, in Geneva. He was very impressed with her credentials and would like to move forward to meet with her for an hour or two to see what she can create. Cost is approximately \$60/hour.

Discussion followed regarding the funding source to cover this cost. Funding source options are: The River Corridor Foundation, St. Charles Park District, City of St. Charles or the private sector. All items for the February Government Services Committee meeting needed to be submitted today and the committee would now have to wait until the March 28th meeting before this request could be presented.

Holly Cabel mentioned that she could present the request to The River Corridor Foundation next week but she would need to present something in writing e.g., how the funds will be spent and the budget breakdown. Holly mentioned that she needs the information no later than Friday since the River Corridor Foundation meets on February 17.

John Rabchuk recommended Mr. Brems speak to Ms. Maresko and get a proposal, scope of work with costs.

4. Task Force Updates

A. Grant Applications Update

Bob Leonard Walk Update

Per John Rabchuk, the Kane County Riverboat Grant application will need to be submitted by March 1. The design has been approved by the River Corridor Foundation and the Active River Task Force (hereafter referred to as "Task Force"). The River Corridor Foundation has approved up to \$20,000 for this project, but the Task Force will seek an additional \$20,000 from the Kane County Riverboat Fund; the application will include the sculptures for Charlemagne Island.

John Rabchuk is filling out the grant application and they are requesting biographies from those involved with the project. John Rabchuk requested a biography from Jim Enck so he can include it in the application; a paragraph with his background and working experiences would be sufficient. John Rabchuk will also need to submit a letter from the City as the property owner.

Tom Anderson mentioned he will be submitting the sculpture and installation information, but he needs to reduce the size of the electronic file so he can email it. He will be sending the information to Peter Suhr and Chris Adesso for approval. The River Corridor has committed \$20,000 and Tom will put in an amount.

Charlemagne Island Sculpture Project

A letter of intent has been submitted to the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley and they will be conducting a site tour and preliminary evaluation on Friday, February 12. An application will be submitted once the Letter of Intent is approved. Grants however will not be awarded until May 2016.

B. Government Services Committee Presentation on January 25, 2016 Discussion

John Rabchuk gave a brief summary of the presentation he made at the Government Services Committee meeting on January 25. He requested the support and some level of commitment from the City. There were mixed comments from the aldermen. They however requested an approximate cost of the project before the City made a commitment to this project.

Aldermen Rita Payleitner and Steven Gaugel are strong supporters of the project and are currently lobbying with the other aldermen. Ald. Rita Payleitner has already met with Ald. Dan Stellato, Jo Krieger and Ed Bessner.

John Rabchuk stated Steve Patzer, from Patzers & Company, resident and owner of a masonry company located in St. Charles, originally wrote a letter to the City against the Active River Project. John contacted Mr. Patzer and explained the purpose of this project. After discussing the project with Mr. Patzer, he has now become receptive of the River Park concept.

C. Engineering Information Update

Greg Chismark, from WBK, has submitted the preliminary scope of work to delineate the engineering work as requested by Council. Per John Rabchuk, cost estimates should arrive

sometime this week. John stated Greg Chismark and Peter Suhr will be meeting with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), but most likely DNR will not respond until the engineering work is completed. Having the engineering work completed is vital for this project to move forward. Once completed, the Design Engineering of the project can be completed. Greg Chismark will be contacting Scott Shipley.

Ed Werneke suggested the Task Force focus on the private sector and the community to influence the City Council for its support. Tom Anderson also mentioned that the City's recently published Strategic Plan identified the river as Goal ID #3 as one of the Short-Term Complex Goals; therefore this project should be important to the City.

D. Meetings and Presentations

Rowing Community

John Rabchuk & Holly met with Row America, Q Center, Forest Preserve and the St. Charles Park District to discuss the requirements for the rowing facility last week. The participants of the meeting reviewed potential site alternatives but focused on Ferson Creek Park. The DNR Grant approved dock and other amenities, but they are waiting for the state to approve the budget and release the funds. Row America may sponsor the building of a boat storage facility and dock, but it will require public access via a rental process, including other rowing clubs and the general public. The storage structure will be an open area with an overhead roof and a fence around the perimeter.

City of Batavia Administration

John Rabchuk, Rick Brems and Jim Enck met with Bill McGrath, City Administrator, and other Batavia city staff on Thursday, February 4. The Active River Task Force representatives presented the same program that was presented at the City of St. Charles Government Services Committee meeting on January 25. The Task Force aspires to build a strong positive relationship with the municipalities residing along the Fox River in an effort to encourage enthusiasm and support for this project

Batavia did mention several issues they are currently dealing with regarding the river: severe erosion near the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the dam collapsing and issues with the Depot Pond that they are trying to remediate.

Metro West Council – Fox River Subgroup

A meeting with the Metro West Council-Fox Valley subgroup has yet to be determined, most likely it will be sometime in April. The Task Force is planning to do the same presentation in the future; again it will be a benefit if the Task Force can get the entire region along the Fox River involved in the Active River Project.

E. Other Outreach Efforts

Private Fund Raising

No status update available at this time; this is still dependent on the City's commitment.

5. Other and New Business

The Stormwater Management class at Munhall School will be conducted on March 17. District 303 will be there to observe the program. In the near future, high school students will conduct this program and expand it district wide.

As discussed in past meetings, the high school environmental science classes will begin conducting long term water quality studies along the St. Charles portion of the Fox River. So far most of the water samplings taken by the students have been done in the tributaries and not in the river itself. The Rowing Club however is willing to take the high school students out on the river keeping the kids out of the river and in a safe environment.

The preliminary engineering concept plan is taking shape for Boy Scout Island. Some of the items being considered is cutting up the channel and creating floating gardens. Engineering of the cove would be part of the 2016 plan which correlates to the Active River Project for 2016.

6. Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for February 22 at 8:00 a.m. at the Baker Community Center.

Motion by Jim Enck to adjourn the meeting, second by Chris Bong

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None Absent: Chris Adesso, Monica Meyers
-Motion carried at 9:14 a.m.

**MINUTES
ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING
ST. CHARLES
JOHN RABCHUK, CHAIRMAN
FEBRUARY 22, 2016**

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

Members Absent: Chris Bong, Jim Enck, Monica Meyers

Others Present: Ed Werneke, Tony Zehnder, Candy Boulay

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 February 8, 2016 Active River Task Force meeting. Motion by Rick Brems, second Holly Cabel to accept and place the minutes on file.

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

Motion carried at 8:04 a.m.

3. Communications and Marketing Update

Rick Brems stated the River Corridor Foundation unanimously approved \$2,500 for marketing and branding design efforts. Mr. Brems shared a draft logo and will look into other options for logos.

4. Task Force Updates

A. Grant Applications Update

Bob Leonard Walk Update

A presentation will be made this evening to provide information and seek approval to proceed with grant application as well as seek permission to use the property. The application needs to be submitted by March 1, 2016. The River Corridor Foundation approved up to \$20,000 for this project.

Charlemagne Island Sculpture Project

A Letter of Intent was submitted to the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley and a site tour and preliminary evaluation was conducted on February 12, 2016. A grant application of \$25,000 will be sought from the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley. The application must be submitted by May 2, 2016. The Honeyman family verbally

approved the relocation of the memorial tree on Johannsson's Island. Chris Adesso stated the relocation probably wouldn't happen for quite some time and would be part of a construction project.

John Rabchuk stated he would be making a presentation to the Brownstone Homeowner's Association to show the sculpture.

B. Engineering Information Update

WBK has submitted preliminary scope of work document to delineate engineering work as requested by City Council. Cost estimates will be available next week.

Chris Adesso stated he discussed this item with Greg Chismark; concept should be attainable; cost estimates are conceptual. Chris said that many free hours have been put towards this project. John Rabchuk stated he anticipates a proposal from WBK may come before the next meeting.

John Rabchuk mentioned Northwestern Hospital and NI Gas may be potential sponsors in the future.

John Rabchuk stated work is being done with Scott Shipley of S2O Design on requirements for RiverPark portion of the project.

WBK is in discussions with Illinois DNR regarding the general project parameters. Chris Adesso stated this should go along with the Master Plan.

C. Meetings and Presentations

Metro West Council – Fox River Valley Subgroup

Mayors and City Administrators will take part in this event. The meeting may take place in April.

St. Charles East High School – Environmental Science Classes and ECO-Club

The group met on February 16 to discuss general concepts of student's involvement in water quality testing and Active River educational efforts. Another meeting will take place on February 26.

St. Charles Canoe Club may provide river chauffeuring service for students on the river during test.

Friends of the Fox may provide direction and guidance on testing methodology, locations and frequency.

Jim Richter, Assistance Principal, will attend the annual River Corridor presentation on storm water management to Munhall School 4th graders. Jim Enck, John Rabchuk and Pam Otto will present.

High School environmental sciences students may assume responsibility for this educational effort in fall of 2016 on a district-wide basis.

Trish Beckjord stated she gave Jim Enck the name of a company that can do a table top model to show.

D. Other Outreach Efforts

Private Fund Raising

No status update available at this time; this is still dependent on the City's commitment.

5. Other and New Business

6. Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at the Baker Community Center.

Motion by Holly Cabel to adjourn the meeting, second by Chris Adesso.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None Absent: Chris Bong, Jim Enck, Monica Meyers
-Motion carried at 9:06 a.m.