

1. CALL TO ORDER: (4:04)

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Billings, Brandt, Daubs (4:45), Neilly, Prouty, Scott, Staashelm, Thayer,
Whyte (4:20)

Guests: Craig Rairdin, Sara Mentzer

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

It was discussed that Billings had served 1 year as the Chair of BPAC and Barkalow had served 1 year as Vice Chair. It was noted that Scott had served 3 years as Secretary.

Motion by Scott, seconded by Staashelm to nominate Billings as Chair of the BPAC for 2020. All "Ayes", motion carried.

Motion by Scott, seconded by Staashelm to nominate Barkalow as Vice-Chair of the BPAC for 2020. All "Ayes", motion carried.

Motion by Neilly, seconded by Brandt to nominate Thayer as Secretary of the BPAC for 2020. All "Ayes", motion carried.

4. MINUTES:

a. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee – September 24, 2019

Motion by Thayer, seconded by Neilly, to approve the minutes.

All 'Ayes', minutes approved.

5. ANNUAL ETHICS POLICY REVIEW:

Billings distributed informational items related to the Ethics Policy that all the members have signed. She noted that they are not required to sign anything annually, just review the policy as a refresher. She noted that this is the first annual review but anticipates it to be on the first agenda of the year going forward.

6. TRAIL / BRIDGES PROJECT UPDATE:

a. CeMar Trail

- i. Bridge Demo – Staff had a pre-construction meeting with the contractor with the intent to have them begin asbestos removal, but suspend work after that until the contractor is ready to begin the rest of the demo, most likely August. Brandt asked if any of the rail lines could be salvaged from the project. Billings noted that the aggregate was proposed to be stockpiles for Parks, but nothing else on this project. She noted she would check on the bridge over Indian Creek to see if any of that could be salvaged.
- ii. Indian Creek Bridge – project is anticipated to be let in February, with restoration beginning this summer.
- iii. Overlay through Thomas and Legion – Project anticipated to be let in April.
- iv. Marion Blvd Bridge / Gateway Piece – Staff is still waiting to hear back from Federal Highway Administration on the go-ahead on bidding the bridge and

gateway feature separately. Unknown timeline. The Committee discussed and recommended that the billboard next to the bridge be used as advertisement of what the new gateway feature is proposed to look like when the Council approves the final rendering.

- v. South of Hwy 100 – Discussions with the property owner(s) south of Highway 100 are ongoing, with progress continuing to be made.
- b. Indian Creek Trail – LinnMar is on board with recommended alignment. Working with adjacent private property owner for approval of alignment.
- c. MISD SRTS (Phase 1) – Staff recently heard from our legal team that the City has ownership of the former 4th Avenue right-of-way between 14th and 15th Streets. Trail design can proceed.
- d. 10th Avenue Sidepaths – In December staff requested qualifications from surrounding engineering firms. Staff has selected a consultant and is working with them to draft a contract for services.

7. DISCUSSION REGARDING SAFE ROUTES TO PARKS:

Sara Mentzer, with Be Well Marion, spoke to the Committee regarding her trip to Atlanta with 5 other members from the Cedar Rapids Metro Area to discuss health initiatives in our area. This invitation was to only a handful of communities with varying levels of healthy initiatives established. During the trip, the local group discussed the importance of developing an initiative behind Safe Routes to Parks as a next step to continue health improvement in Linn County.

She informed the Committee that this is just an informational item at this point. The next step is to present this concept to the City Council in hopes to get direction for staff to create a policy for Safe Routes to Parks, which would eventually lead to a Safe Routes to Parks Plan, both of which would come to the Committee first for review and recommendation.

8. SRTS CONFERENCE / BIKE SUMMIT RECAP:

Billings provided a summary of the Safe Routes to Schools Conference on January 23rd and the Iowa Bike Summit on January 24th. She shared who the speakers were and some highlights from the presentations that could impact local efforts.

9. OTHER BUSINESS:

Billings introduced Lynne Abbott as the new representative from Linn County Public Health. She will be on the February 6th City Council agenda for appointment by the Mayor.

10. ADJOURN:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Thayer, Secretary