

MINUTES
KANKAKEE COUNTY REGIONAL
PLANNING COMMISSION

Audio/Video Conference Meeting
4th Floor County Board Room
Kankakee County Administration Building
189 E. Court Street, Kankakee, IL 60901

August 20, 2020

In Attendance

Members:

Chairman Miller, Mr. Bergdahl, Mr. Jarvis, Ms. Maricle, Mr. Paarlberg, Mr. Payton, Mr. Piggush, Ms. Washington.

Others:

Mr. Mergenthaler, Mr. Olson, and Mr. Wilson.

Open Meeting

Chairman Miller opened the meeting at 10:31 AM.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Manuel motioned to approve the minutes from June 18, 2020 as presented. Mr. Bergdahl seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

Greenways and Trails Plan Update

Mr. Mergenthaler gave a presentation on the 2020 Greenways and Trails Plan update. He explained the goals of the 2009 plan and the benefits of having non-motorized amenities. The presentation included a regional map of bike trails in northeast Illinois and a list of non-motorized facilities that were constructed since 2009 when the previous plan was adopted.

Mr. Mergenthaler informed everyone that staff was looking to have participation from a couple members of the RPC, but also individuals from the community, too. Mr. Manuel volunteered to participate on the Greenways and Trails Plan. Mr. Jarvis suggested reaching out to the Riverfront Trail Committee for participation on the plan update. Mr. Bergdahl added that he was also interested and commented that the RPC has a long history with the greenways and trails plan in Kankakee County.

Mr. Wilson discussed the possibilities of having participation with the Convention and Visitors Bureau and Ride Illinois, which could help market the trail system in the area. Mr. Piggush

stated the City of Kankakee was awarded a Fast Track grant to develop Schuyler Avenue two more blocks north from where their previous bike amenities ended, which would extend it to Oak Street. The City of Kankakee is also looking to improve Schuyler from Station Street to Water Street and Riverfront Trail Phase 3A would be on the east side of the Kankakee River from Station Street to the non-motorized bridge over the river.

Mr. Paarlberg asked about regulations regarding golf carts. Mr. Bergdahl said that would be regulated by each municipality that allows them. Mr. Paarlberg also said he noticed an increase in cyclists on rural roads.

Next Scheduled Meeting

The next meeting is tentative for September 17, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.

Adjournment

Mr. Bergdahl asked if any members were up for reappointment. Mr. Wilson said notifications would be sent out to members.

Mr. Payton motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bergdahl seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried. Chairman Miller adjourned the meeting at 11:08 AM.