

MINUTES  
KANKAKEE COUNTY REGIONAL  
PLANNING COMMISSION

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

October 15, 2020

**In Attendance**

Members:

Chairman Miller, Mr. Bergdahl, Mr. Jarvis, Ms. Maricle, Mr. Paarlberg, Mr. Payton, Ms. Cowhig.

Others:

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

**Open Meeting**

Chairman Miller opened the meeting at 10:30 AM.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Approval of Minutes**

Due to a quorum not being present, minutes from the previous meeting were not approved.

**Election of Officers**

Election of officers will be conducted at the next meeting due to a quorum of members not being present.

Mr. Wilson notified members that had their appointment to the Regional Planning Commission up for renewal. Chairman Miller asked if members whose terms were up contributed to a quorum. Mr. Olson stated the ordinance has members continue as members until they resign. Mr. Bergdahl added that while members do need to be reappointed, members remain on the commission until they resign or the seat is appointed to someone else.

**Greenways and Trails Plan Update**

Mr. Mergenthaler gave a presentation on the 2020 Greenways and Trails Plan update. He discussed an upcoming survey that is nearing completion that will be available to members and the public. He also stated that the steering committee has a few members that have volunteered to participate and additional members from the local community are being sought out. Mr. Jarvis suggested a steering committee of around 10 members. Mr. Mergenthaler also discussed a

project that would fill the gap from Riverfront Park in Bourbonnais to the Wauponsee Glacial Trail. Mr. Bergdahl stated when the first greenways and trails plan was prepared in 1999, there was controversy over the possibility of constructing bike trails through neighborhoods. He also suggested meeting with local municipalities and park districts to ensure there is a general consensus of potential future trails.

Mr. Mergenthaler said the plan will also look at non-motorized safety and potential improvements. He also said bicycle parking will be addressed, which can assist in making biking more attractive as a mode of transportation. Mr. Jarvis asked if tourism will be included in the plan. Mr. Wilson said it would part of the plan, as well as pedestrian access and waterway trails. Mr. Paarlberg asked if golf carts would be driven on bike paths. Mr. Wilson said that would have to be a decision made by the municipality. Mr. Olson informed everyone that the City of Kankakee's Safe Routes to School crosswalk improvement project has begun construction on Court Street at King Middle School.

### **New Business**

Chairman Miller suggested revisiting the agri-tourism ordinance for possible improvements.

Mr. Jarvis asked something could be implemented to know if members will be able to attend upcoming meetings prior to the meeting date.

### **Next Scheduled Meeting**

The next meeting is tentative for January 21, 2021 at 10:30 AM.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Bergdahl motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Payton seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried. Chairman Miller adjourned the meeting at 11:29 A.M.