
MINUTES

Kinni Corridor Project Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 22, 2017

4-5:30 p.m.

City Hall – Training Room

The Kinni Corridor Committee met on June 22, 2017. Those in attendance included Lisa Moody, Patricia LaRue, Dave Fodroczi, Jason Egerstrom, Mary Zimmermann, Dan Toland, Buddy Lucero, Julie Bergstrom, Kevin Westhuis, Adam Myszewski, Gary Horvath, Rita Kozak, Amy Peterson, Chris Blasius, Angie Bond, Bob Kost, Ismael Martinez, Dan Mielke and Mark Lobermeier.

Buddy Lucero called the meeting to order.

Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes from May 11, 2017 and June 8, 2017 were presented and approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Public Comment

There was no comment from the public in attendance.

2. Committee Member Check-in: Questions, comments, items not on the agenda

The committee asked that the survey results from December/January be posted on the project website.

3. Updates

a. Schedule Update – Charrette dates and Committee Expectations

Bob Kost handed out a more detailed schedule for the October charrette, including expectations for committee attendance. The Committee agreed to set the Friday time frame for committee participation from 4:00pm to 6:00pm.

b. FOTK Monitoring Project

Mark Lobermeier provided a brief summary of the water quality monitoring program recently undertaken by the FOTK. Michael Page of the FOTK added that the project was funded by Lush Cosmetics and a Wisconsin Rivers Grant.

- c. River Falls Days
Mary Zimmermann discussed the parade entry and the Kinni booth.

4. Feasibility Report Outline – Discussion

Mark Lobermeier described the feasibility report as a delivery to connect the dots, beginning with the technical reports and utilizing a Committee-approved decision matrix. The results of the charrette will bring the community vision of the corridor into focus and provide the foundation to develop a recommendation to the City Council regarding the licensing decision.

Dave advocated for receiving maximum preparation time for the committee and receiving information in advance.

5. Technical Studies Update

Ismael Martinez provided a verbal update regard the status of the technical studies. Work to date has included reviewing existing studies and documents, identifying gaps in the available information and completing new studies to address the gaps. Ismael mentioned the work to address the FERC licensing requirements, Atlas 14 hydrology and the FOTK Dam Removal Feasibility Report. He indicated that the consulting team had just begun reviewing the draft technical memorandums and will prepare a summary for the Committee. The Tech Memos will be relied on during the charrette.

Amy asked if there was a specific order to distribution of the technical information. Mark indicated that no order has been established. Gary asked if all studies through relicensing were being addressed. Mark indicated that not all of the studies required in relicensing would be prepared at this prior to the relicensing decision.

6. Tech Talk #5 - Dam Removal Alternatives

Mark Lobermeier led a discussion regarding the upcoming tech talk based on the June 8 Committee meeting. He reviewed the licensing scenarios including:

- Scenario 1 – Keep both facilities
- Scenario 2 – Remove both facilities
- Scenario 3(a) - Remove one facility and relicense
- Scenario 3(b) - Remove one facility and surrender
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Mark also introduced examples of criteria to use for framing the discussion including:

- Cost/Financing
- Ecological
- Recreation/Tourism
- Economic
- Other

The proposed format for the program was confirmed:

- 5:30-6:30 – poster presentations
- 6:30-7:30 – presentation
- 7:30-8:00 – Q&A

Questions from the public will be submitted beforehand.

Next Mark discussed proposed panelists including Inter-Fluve, Ayres Associates, Ismael Martinez, a leader from a precedent project community (removal and/or restoration) and DNR resources including Pete Skorseth (permitting), Cheryl Laatsch (Watershed and Dams), and Bob Martini (retired WDNR Fisheries). Rita recommended a panelist from a precedent project. Gary mentioned a project in West Bend.

Mark recommended that we go with Marty Melchior of Inter-Fluve, Ismael Martinez and Cheryl Laatsch. The Committee agreed to go along with the recommendation.

Mark summarized his thoughts regarding the posters session. The themes from the June 8 Committee Meeting included:

- Cost and financing
- Visuals/Descriptions
- Relicensing Scenarios
- Facts
- Timeframe/future
- Acknowledge that the current situation is not the best we can do
- Share information on precedent projects (ex. Baraboo River)
- Hydro role as a critical asset during natural disaster
- Value of renewable energy

Buddy confirmed the Committee's agreement to use only written questions in advance. The Committee also agreed to hold a special meeting on June 29 to prepare for the tech talk.

7. FOTK Report Presentation

Michael Page of The Friends of the Kinni presented their report regarding dam removal, showing a number of old images of the upper mill pond, the cascades on the South Fork. Dan Mielke of Inter-Fluve, the FOTK's consultant on the project, presented the report. Dan summarized the findings and concepts for stream restoration.

There was no time for questions following the presentation.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.