
Minutes
Kinni Corridor Project Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 19, 2018

4-5:30 p.m.
City Hall – Council Chambers

The Kinni Corridor Committee met on April 19, 2018. Those in attendance included Lisa Moody, Patricia LaRue, Adam Myszewski, Susan Reese, Gary Horvath, Rita Kozak, Chris Blasius, Mike Stifter, Angie Bond, Jason Egerstrom, Mayor Dan Toland, Buddy Lucero, Dave Fodroczi, Scot Simpson, Mary Zimmermann, and Jeff McMenimen.

Buddy Lucero called the meeting to order.

Discussion Items

1. St. Croix Summit

Rita Kozak invited all to attend the UWRF St. Croix Summit on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is a community gathering/discussion about the Kinnickinnic watershed.

Dave Fodroczi invited all to attend the Kinni River Clean-up on April 28, 2018. Register online at Kinni River Land Trust. Lunch provided.

2. Final Council Resolution

Buddy Lucero discussed the final Council resolution that passed in support of the Committee's recommendation to relicense the hydroelectric facilities and plan for their future removal. He gave credit to the City Council and the Kinni Corridor Project Committee for their time and efforts with this sensitive project.

3. What is next

Buddy discussed the "Next Steps" letter sent to the community. This letter signed by Buddy and Scot Simpson outlines the process for the future of the Kinni Corridor. The letter outlines three main next steps:

- Relicensing- A preliminary application will be submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) by the end of August. Kevin Westhuis will be the contact for this process.
- Planning Process – The City has hired Jeff McMenimen with Hoisington Kogler Group, Inc (HKGI) to assist with this process. The final plan will be completed by the end of 2018. The Committee will continue to work on this process with Buddy as the contact.

- Public-Private Partnership – This group will implement the plan the community and the Committee come up with Scot Simpson as the contact.

4. Hoisington Kogler Group, Inc & Kinni Corridor Work Plan

Jeff McMenimen from HKGI was introduced to the Committee. He is the consultant hired to continue the planning process for the Kinni Corridor. The Committee introduced themselves to Jeff as well. Jeff explained his background and his plan for the process. He has been a landscape architect for 30 years, is an urban designer, and an avid fisherman and paddler. Jeff has worked with the City of River Falls on the Hoffman and Glen Park Master plans, the Great River Passage Plan in St. Paul and has experience with many other river corridor projects. Jeff has built a reputation on public involvement and community engagement. His approach to planning is community based, to listen, collaborate and make the community's vision come to life.

Jeff discussed the work plan. His plan is to get caught up on the work that's been done to date, identify issues and opportunities to discuss with the committee in future meetings, and work together toward a development of a river corridor plan. A community workshop to develop ideas will be held in September and an open house in November to present a draft plan. In December-January a final document will be presented with the final plan and sketches. Jeff discussed enhancing connections to the river, and parks and rec opportunities. The plan will include looking at broader areas of the community, including agricultural areas to protect the river from agriculture and development in the future. Jeff stated we will focus on the relationship with the downtown and the river, and fishing/ kayaking opportunities.

Patricia LaRue discussed the importance of keeping the history and heritage of River Falls as part of the plan, and possibility of a museum.

Chris Blasius asked if we are starting over or with the Charrette information be used in the planning. Jeff explained together we will evaluate ideas, old and new. We will not start over but build on the work that's been done.

5. Role of the Committee

Buddy discussed our future meetings, to visit the river, start gathering ideas and wish list. Buddy thanked the Committee for an excellent job. A reminder was given to have someone else present for your group if you represent one so we can continue to work as a Committee/group.

Dave Fodroczi asked if the future meeting dates are solid. Chris asked if July 12 meeting/workshop should be moved due to River Falls Days. Dates will be confirmed. Jeff and Buddy will discuss and the Committee will get updated.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.