

MINUTES

Kinni Corridor Committee Meeting/Workshop

Thursday, July 12, 2018

4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

City Hall – Training Room

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Kinni Corridor Committee met on July 12th, 2018. Those in attendance included Rick Bowen, Jason Egerstrom, Lisa Moody, Rita Kozak, Susan Reese, Dave Fodroczi, Patricia LaRue and Mayor Dan Toland. City staff Buddy Lucero, Angie Bond, Mary Zimmermann, Amy Peterson, Kevin Westhuis, and Mike Stifter. Consultants Jeff McMenimen, and Andrew Papke-Larson from HKGi.

Public: Dave Drewiske,

Buddy Lucero called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 7, 2018
2. REVIEW/DISCUSS PRECEDENT ANALYSIS

Jeff McMenimen provided a brief overview presentation of precedent analysis. Precedent river cities/towns included Glenwood Springs (CO), Durango (CO), Breckenridge (CO), Jackson (WY), Spearfish (SD), Northfield (MN). Key takeaways from the precedent analysis included

- Build on and protect the city's natural, historic, and built assets (Conservation easements, design guidelines, historic preservation, etc.)
- Develop a variety of attractions/tourism opportunities to attract visitors throughout the year (4 season)
- Program for events and festivals throughout the year
- Capitalize on nearby attractions/destinations
- Create marketing/branding strategies to attract residents, businesses, and visitors
- Provide high quality shopping, dining and lodging experiences
- Create strong relationship between downtown and riverfront
- Pursue partnerships to promote riverfront development
- Partner with non-profit organizations to assist with protection of resources

Included in the presentation was an overview and precedent study of conservation easements, stormwater BMPs, parks in floodplains, and riverwalks. Additional riverwalk precedents included Wichita (KS) Greenville (SC), Naperville (IL), Northfield (MN), Oklahoma City (OK), and San Antonio (TX). Additional stormwater precedent images were provided by Patricia LaRue (Wichita)

In addition to the observations presented by the consultants, the committee provided the following comments regarding key takeaways:

- Some of Northfield's attractions, such as wineries, resonated well with one committee member. More so than the active recreation attractions noted in the western example river cities.
- Stormwater BMPs could be a great addition to Main Street

- River Falls City Hall is a precedent for other locations as it includes both permeable pavers and stormwater management practices (bio swales) in the parking lot.
 - It was noted that pavers can be challenging to maintain (especially during winter months)
 - Stormwater BMPs can be used as amenities, attracting to the river or downtown area.
- There was a question about the potential to develop within the existing impoundments after dam removal. Previous plans have shown that the area that is now Lake George will not be within the floodway after dam removal.
 - The 2005 stormwater treatment concept plan calls for a series of stormwater ponds within the current impoundment for Lake George
 - While it is possible to develop within the floodplain, it can be costly
 - Further clarification is needed to determine if the impoundments are within the floodplain after dam removal
- Precedent analysis should also address river restoration projects and Midwestern communities. Examples cited by Committee members:
 - Baraboo (WI), Traverse City (Mi), Valparaiso (IN), and Hudson (WI).
- What is our project goal? Do we want a place to attract visitors and make them want to drive to downtown? If so we need to add new amenities to draw people in.
 - Possible ice rink/farmers market space or adventure play
 - Making the river a central feature, i.e. places to touch the water
 - Walnut street as a possible new access point
 - New river viewing overlooks or decks
 - Making the river an attractive and accessible feature (to all)

3. DISCUSS POTENTIAL FUTURES FOR THE KINNI RIVER CORRIDOR

- Parks and Recreation
- Natural Resources and River Ecology
- Land Use and Economic Development
- Access and Connectivity

Small group discussion, facilitated by the consultant team was then focused on identifying issues and opportunities associated with parks and recreation, natural resources and river ecology, land use and economic development, and access and connectivity along the Kinni Corridor. The Committee provided insights, ideas, challenges, and opportunities that were recorded on trace paper over mapping of the City of River Falls and the Kinni River. The Committee will meet in 2 weeks to continue the workshop discussion – future of the Kinni Corridor.

4. NEXT STEPS

- Committee Meeting/Workshop – Thursday, July 26
- Committee Meeting – Thursday, August 16
- Community Workshop – Thursday, September 13, a new date is being looked at for later in the month.

5. ADJOURN