

Kentucky Rails to Rails Council Meeting , 1/20/04 6:30 – 8 PM – Tuesday 3rd floor Conference Room
Lexington Fayette Co. Urban Co. Government Building, Main & Martin Luther King Blvd., Lexington KY

Next Meeting Feb 17/04, Tuesday 6:30 pm

Present: Keith Lovan, Cindy Deitz, Bob Strosnider, Jeff Welch 2923A Greenriver Rd Henderson, KY 42420, Kristin Farrey, Eddie Farrey, Phyllis Hasbrouck, Becky McNall, Jeanette Coufal, Missy Rogers, 328 S. Main, Versailles 40383 andersoncoc@dcr.net, Lisa Rainey Brownell 1415 Richmond Rd #4 Lexington 40502, Robin Reams, Dixie Moore, Joseph Bramer 305 Lindenhurst Drive, Apt 1069 Lexington 405 09 jbramer@bankofthebluegrass.com, David Kjelby

Consensus Agenda was accepted:

1. Leslie Bruner, Staff to Council Member Shafer sent Dixie an email saying The Mayor's Office has booked the conference room on the Government Center 5th Floor on the third Tuesday evenings through and including April 20, 2004, for her Youth Council meetings. She reserved the 3rd Floor Conference Room, which holds 20 (although the table is much smaller--seats 8, chairs are lined up along the walls), for the entire year on the third Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 PM.

2. Treasurer's Report: Long Term Project Fund - \$12,000, Checking - \$9300 (of which 2500 is dedicated to the High Bridge group; and there are various amounts owed to local groups).

David Kjelby is transitioning treasurer functions to Joe Bramer, who has volunteered to serve as Treasurer. Joe is an officer at The Bank of the Bluegrass on E. High St. Michael Vank, a KRTC member in northern KY who is active in banking used his networking with his colleagues to reach Joe and put him in contact with KRTC, Dixie Moore and Bob Strosnider. Most of the early communication occurred with email over the holidays. Joe and David met last week at the University of Kentucky Credit Union with the goal of getting his signature on the account cards. However, the customer service representative told us that we have to get ALL people currently on the account cards to sign with Joe. That means not only would David have to sign, but also the other authorized person: Sandy Shafer. Since we didn't realize that and Sandy wasn't there we were not able to complete the task that day. KRTC needs to talk at the meeting about keeping the account at the UK Credit Union or moving it to the bank Joe works at. Joe is going to research what fees KRTC would have to pay if the accounts were moved to his bank.

3. The Tyrone Bridge and Rail Company has contracted to have a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places written for Young's High Bridge. The application will be complete about April. TBRC asked KRTC for a donation to help with the \$3000 cost of filing the nomination forms. The Board and Officers were polled by the Chair; a donation of \$100 was approved. KRTC has contributed \$100. Jodie Wells is the president of TBRC.

4. Nancy Merrill from the Conservation Fund contacted Bob Strosnider to tell KRTC about a cross country cycling tour being sponsored by the Concrete Manufacturers Association. It looks like it will come through Western KY. They are looking for someone to put on an event associated with the tour to give it publicity and are inquiring if KRTC would be interested.. The Association plans to provide some concrete facilities to some projects along the route. Details aren't developed on all of this yet. The Conservation Fund to get back to Bob Strosnider when it has been firmed up.

5. Bob Strosnider, Chair, has assumed the responsibility of developing the slate for the April elections since George Ely has had to withdraw from the position due to his broken leg. Bob Strosnider has asked SCORE (Senior Corps of Retired Executives) if a couple of their members would be willing to serve on the board. Fred Plymale expressed interest to come to a meeting.

6. Planning for Katy Trip. Members expressing interest in making the trip. Robin Reams, Helen Siewers, Bob Strosnider, Don Stosberg, Charles Holbrook, Michael Vank, Dixie Moore, Tom Walters. Tentative itinerary for KRTC cycling trip to the Katy Trail in Missouri. September 14 (Tuesday, Day 1)- September 18, (Saturday, Day 5) 2004. Sept.18-20th,2004 will also be the dates of the 19th annual "Bike Trek to Shakertown"-for the American Lung Association of Kentucky. The itinerary to be continuously updated as information and plans become more firm. This itinerary and detailed information will be in the next newsletter as an announcement. 4 days on the trail. One day traveling to get to trailhead and either driving back on the last day of the ride for 5 days total, or staying overnight and driving back the following day for total 6 days. If some cyclists want to do an extra day and ride the entire length of the trail from Clinton to St. Charles then that is best done by going out a day early. Amtrak can carry bikes, but only 4 per train. Therefore to get to the Sedalia start will have to shuttle from St. Charles or from Kentucky. Reservations for accommodations and payment for meals and accommodations will be up to the individual at the motels listed. KRTC will ask for a special rate for KRTC members. Participants are encouraged to join KRTC or be current with their dues if not already a member in good standing. Will plan to get liability insurance; have inquired with the League of American Bicyclists.

7. April Haight reports that the January Daniel Boone Rails to Trails meeting is cancelled. They anticipate that at least one of the bridges that they have planned for will be built this spring.

8.. The KY Rec and Park Society will be presenting their conference, Gateway to Excellence. , 2004 Annual Conference, Covington, KY Feb 1-February 4, 2004 Conference site, Northern Kentucky Convention Center. They have workshops of interest to greenway and RT activists. Among their workshops are one on building mountain bike trails and one on green infrastructure. Contact: *Don Stosberg*, Executive Director, Kentucky Recreation and Park Society, 213 St. Clair, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-1845, 502.696.9834, Website: www.kyrec.org, fax 502.696.9171.

8.Muhlenberg County Update from Becky Keith. We have designed a new brochure for our trail and I ordered 5000 copies today to be distributed through the chambers of commerce. We are almost finished with the museum in our new antique caboose. It will be outfitted with photos and history from the past. We are videotaping many citizens in our community who worked on the trains in the past....recording their stories. We hope to make it into a video for the caboose. I'll let you know our progress there. We have the caboose lit and new lights surrounding that portion of the trail. It's really pretty and highly visible as well. It's amazing how many people use the trail even in this cold weather! We are working on a dedication date for the caboose....In Feb, I hope. Also, we are planning a wellness center that will be at the beginning of the Central City end of the trail. There is an old home available at the entrance to the central city end that would make a great B&B or cycle shop, etc. Do you know anyone interested? I wish we could purchase it for future purposes.

9. Donation acknowledgement letters for 2003 , renewal letters and newsletter are to be sent out in the next month along with a letter asking for nominations.

Agenda:

1. Jodie Wells, President of the Tyrone Bridge and Rail Company updated us on the bridge and railbank situation on the Wild Turkey Proposed Rail Trail. She along with 4 other people created the Tyrone Bridge and Rail Company as a non-profit to work to preserve Young's High Bridge. There is 2.8 miles of abandoned railway corridor from Lawrenceburg to the KY River including the 100 year old Young's High Bridge. It has never been upgraded. Jodie is the former President of the Bluegrass Railroad Museum and is working on getting Young's High Bridge on the National Register of Historic Places and secondly on the National Historic Listing of Landmarks. The Tyrone Bridge and Rail Company has contracted with Joe

Brent ,President of Mudpuppy and Waterdog, a grant writing firm to do a submission to the National Commission of Scenic Places which will cost \$3000. They have raised \$2300 with major contributions from the Anderson and Woodford County Fiscal Courts (\$700 each) and lesser amounts from the Bluegrass RR Museum the Anderson County Chamber of Commerce, the Anderson County Historical Society, the LHC&WF(Louisville-Harrods Creek and West Port Foundation, the Kentucky Railroad Museum. KRTC has promised to donate \$100 for this effort. There have been several local newspaper articles on the subject. Jodie gave a brief presentation of the history of the bridge and the man who caused it to be built, Bennet Young. The bridge was part of the Louisville Southern line, the first line not controlled by the L and N. Bennett Young rode with John Hunt Morgan's men, led the most northern raid of the Confederacy at St. Albans, Vermont, started a law practice in Louisville, was President of a the Louisville Southern and active in civic affairs in Louisville and central Ky. . The bridge was built in 6 months in 1989. Jodie has submitted a proposal to the Kentucky Heritage Council asking for historic listing of the corridor between Lawrenceburg and Versailles. The rail banking was recently renewed for the 2.8 mile stretch. She asked for assistance from KRTC to help form a committee or a task force which could move toward preserving the bridge as part of a railtrail. Specifically she is asking for help in writing letters and approaching the state government for assistance. She reported that Joe Gormley, the Judge Executive of the Woodford County Fiscal Court likes the idea. Missy Rogers of the Anderson Chamber of Commerce said that Anderson Chamber of Commerce is behind the effort as is Anthony Stratton the Judge Executive of Anderson County. Ken Clark ...(what role did he have in this discussion@**8). Missy explained that the problem was that Anderson County has very little money to spend.

In response to Jodie Wells' request the Board voted to form a committee to work with the Tyrone Bridge and Rail Company in developing a railtrail including Young's High Bridge. . Jeanette Coufal and Keith Lovan volunteered to serve. An appeal will be put out on the listserve for other committee members. Jodie explained that she works a night shift at KU and would not be available for night meetings. She took a vacation day to attend our meeting tonight. Keith Lovan raised the possibility of asking for a legislative task force on this proposal, the discussion was that the committee should explore that possibility before recommending such action to the Board.

2. Update on the 2004 conference. It was said that Scott Southall was working on getting sponsors. It would be important for someone in Louisville to coordinate with Scott about contacting sponsors. Keith Lovan said that "save the date postcards" were going to go out soon to members and asked for a mailing list from the Secretary. A tentative schedule of the conference was passed out at the meeting. Scheduled is a bike ride and tour of the Olmstead Parks on Friday.

3. Status of the Board and Council. All officers' positions are open and need to be filled. A letter requesting nominations will be sent out with the letter acknowledging donations for 2003. There are 7 at large Board Member Positions to be filled

Positions to be filled: CHAIR currently filed by Robert K. Strosnider
VICE CHAIR FOR GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS** listed as Public Affairs in Bylaws, currently filed by Sandy Shafer
VICE CHAIR FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE currently filed by Keith Lovan,
VICE CHAIR FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS currently filed by Cindy Deitz,
VICE CHAIR FOR FINANCE currently filed by Scott Southall,
SECRETARY/HISTORIAN/ NEWSLETTER EDITOR currently filed by Dixie Moore,
TREASURER
AT LARGE MEMBER- Bluegrass Region
AT LARGE MEMBER- Northern KY Region
Representative -Daniel Boone Rails to Trails Foundation, Inc.

Representative - Lake Cumberland Trail Foundation ,

Positions that are currently filled and are not up for reelection this year.

AT LARGE MEMBER- Green River Region Sue Fowler, (goes to 02-05)

AT LARGE MEMBER – Barrren River, Helen Tyson Siewers ,(goes to 03-05)

AT LARGE MEMBER- Bluegrass, Eddie Farrey, , (goes to 03-05)

Representative - Bluegrass Rails to Trails Foundation, Robin Reams (goes to 03-05).

Representative – High Bridge Rail-Trail, Tim Powell (goes to 03-05)

Representative - Muhlenberg Rails to Trails, Becky Keith, (goes to 03-05)

Appointed but not Board Positions – no term, Legal Advisor, William T. Gordon III, Webmaster: Tim Powell ,Listmaster: Wm Stillwell, Ph.D.

4. A discussion was held on the pros and cons of sharing our mailing list with The KY Rec and Park Society to send out announcements to their conference. This is our first ever request for our mailing list!!! It was agreed to share our mailing list on a one time basis with them in exchange for sending our newsletter on a one time basis to their membership. Those members who had requested that their name not be given out will have that request honored. (This information was conveyed to Don Stosberg, however the meeting is so close that Don Stosberg felt it would not be useful to send a mailing at this late date; the info re: their conference was put out over the listserve.)

5.Easements. Bob Strosnider reported talking with Bill Gorton, our legal advisor and fine tuning the easement format. It is now written that if the easement ceased to be used as a trail that it will revert back to the original owner. There are property owners in Carter County ready to sign.

6. Local projects. There is an abandonment in Floyd Co. for which the Prestonsburg-Middle Creek Battle Foundation has applied for railbanking. They also have contracted for a feasibility study to see if it could function as a scenic RR with a railtrail as an alternative. Bob Strosnider has passed on the video “Enhancing our Communities” and a Workbook to James Carr who is working on the project.

7. Joseph Bramer was gratefully accepted as by the Board as KRTC new treasurer. He will look at KRTC’s past finances and prepare a budget or discussion aimed toward adopting a budget. He has looked into the possibility of the accounts being switched to the Bank of the Bluegrass without imposing additional fees. Bob Strosnider would like future discussion on setting aside money to hire an executive director. There were comments made about the need to raise more money to do the tasks that KRTC would like to do.

8. Jeanette Coufal explained that she and her husband, Greg Brock, would be glad to host an open house for KRTC members. The date of March 6th was tentatively agreed on in order to give time for the announcement to come out in the newsletter.

9. Discussion was had on the need to appear at the committee hearing on the prefiled Lexington Big Sandy Task Force during this legislative assembly.

10. Dixie Moore raised the issue of becoming members of the Bluegrass Trust and other local or state conservation groups. While networking was seen as a positive goal, since the Bluegrass Trust and the Bluegrass Trust are regional groups it was felt that this would be a more appropriate response for the Bluegrass Rails to Trail to consider. Robin Reams , the BRTF representative, will take this idea back to the BTRF. No one at the meeting could think of a state wide group which would be more appropriate for KRTC to network with.

11. The plans for the Katy trip were briefly presented, the consensus was that the dates should remain, even though they would unfortunately conflict with the Sept.18-20th,2004 19th annual "Bike Trek to Shakertown"-for the American Lung Association of Kentucky. It was felt that both rides were a one time event for most people and would not have repeating conflicts and would draw different types of riders. 1 and 2 day riders versus riders for 5 days. It was also agreed that participants be required to be members of

KRTC, the sponsoring organization. It was suggested that participants also be required to have proof of medical insurance prior to the ride.