

Kentucky Rails to Rails Council Board Meeting

April 18, 2005

6:30 PM - Tuesday 8th floor Conference Room

Lexington Fayette Co. Urban Co. Government Building

Main & Martin Luther King Blvd., Lexington KY

Present: Dixie Moore, Keith Lovan, Joe Bramer, Jim Fischer, Helga Yates, Jeanette Coufal, a political science student who came to observe and Cindy Dietz who came in at the end.

Call to Order:

1. Consensus Items – accepted
2. Treasurer's Report – Joe Bramer reported that \$7000 has been the income so far this year and expenses have been approximately \$1000 more than income.
 - a. Monthly Income/Expense Report
 - b. Tally from membership drive – currently 180 members paid for 2005

Old Business:

3. Web Site update - Boyd Shearer sends written monthly reports to Keith Lovan. Keith reports that visits to the website continue to be up. Site visits for April were 2300 so far, for March they were 6000. Boyd would like additional list of keywords to use with the website so that people searching will be led to the website. Keith Lovan also will ask what is Boyd's current list of keywords and send those out to board members.
4. Display board. Cindy Deitz is working on getting new pictures and a large explanatory map on the display board. The display board is slated to be at Jessamine County in May. After discussion in the meeting it was decided that the display board will go to Pedal Power Bike Shop in June and then if possible to the Breathitt Co. Library in Jackson. .
5. Corporation Sponsorships – Jeanette Coufal continues to contact businesses. She reported a pledge of a corporate sponsorship of \$100 from Dodds Cyclery.
6. Audit – Joe Bramer indicated it was his plan to call Dean, Dorton, and Ford PSC in the near future. He did not want to call during tax session.
7. Johnson Breathitt Magoffin County letter writing campaign – Members are continuing to be encouraged to write letters to the local Judges and elected officials. Keith Lovan reports that letters for Jim Host and the Transportation Dept have been received in response to earlier letters.
 - a. Helga Yates, a member of KRTC and originally from Salyersville was present. She talked about how the major concern of people in the local communities is the policing of the trail and the inappropriate use by 4 wheelers and drug users. An issue for local residents would be who would have responsibility to police the trails. She indicated that many people would support the state police having a right to police the trail as a way to build confidence that the law would be obeyed on the trail. The use of trails by 4-wheelers was suggested as an upcoming topic for the upcoming conference. It was restated that railtrails are for non-motorized traffic and that trails should be well- marked as such and that ATV's are not allowed.
8. 2006 Conference Planning: Prior to the Council meeting tonight a meeting was held to begin planning the 2006 conference. The chosen location was Lexington and the date would be one of the first two weekends in February 2006.
9. Wilcher/Host meeting presentation – a meeting date has not yet been set.

New Business:

10. Out of State Rail Trail Group Trip – Todd Geddes, who was not at the meeting, would like to plan a trip to the Virginia Creeper Trail sometime in August or Sept. This trip could be a way for eastern KY community leaders to see a trail up close.

11. Upcoming rides and events. Dixie Moore reviewed the plans for the Bluegrass Cycling Club Breathitt County Ride and the KRTC Bike Relay between Lexington and Ashland. June 11th . .

Dixie Moore reported on the planning so far and presented samples of shimmels that could have the logo printed on them that the riders might wear. She reported that a member had volunteered to pay for the cost of the shimmels. Discussion was had on how best to advertise and get the word out. The meeting approved Keith Lovan's suggestion of spending up to \$250 for a PR person to publicize the relay and the Breathitt ride. Suggestion was made that it would be good to have clips on TV prior to the ride in the local counties. Dixie Moore to continue to work with setting up the local photo-op's at the transitions points with local communities and planning and coordinating the relay. .

12. Changing name of membership categories: Individual//Family. It was agreed to simplify the dues paying categories to \$25 supporter, \$50 promoter (had been patron), \$100 benefactor \$250 engineer \$500 trail blazer. There also will be an "other" category with no stated dues attached.

In the next newsletter a breakdown of the new individual dues and corporate sponsorships will be included.

13. Board nominations in April – Keith Lovan reported that our by laws indicate that we should have board elections in April. Since last year the officers formally took office late in the year he will be asking current board members if they would be willing to serve another term.

14. Selling RTC jerseys – Idea was discussed to buy RTC jersey at cost and sell them over the website as an income producing activity for KRTC. In the discussion it was brought out that KRTC could then be responsible to pay taxes on sales. Suggestion was made to call Sheri Bradshaw of the BCC since she has had experience in this area. Keith Lovan indicated that he would find out more information and present it again later.

15. July 4th booth and parade. Topic was raised of again having a booth and/or parade at the July 4th festivities in Lexington. Dixie Moore, the past coordinator for the booth will not be able to do it this year. If KRTC is to have a booth a new coordinator will have to volunteer. The fee for the booth is \$75.00. Dixie Moore volunteered to pull a list of active members from the database and circulate it among the board for easier communication.

16. Speaking engagements- Keith Lovan asked for members to join him when he will be speaking on RT on May 3 at the Lexington Ski and Sport Club, on Oct 5th at the Ashland Walk able Community Workshop and on May 10th at 10:00 am at the Bluegrass Area Development District. This is a great way to get experience on presenting RT to different groups.

17. Next scheduled meeting will be Monday, May 16, 2005. Note this represents the change to the 3rd Monday.

Consensus Items Received Prior to the Meeting.

1. A meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 18th at 5:30 pm to start the planning for the 2006 conference (prior to the Board meeting). It will be held in the 8th floor conference room of the Government Center at 200 East Main Street. I am asking former conference committee members and other individuals who have expressed an interest in serving on this committee if they would like to join us. The purpose of the meeting is to select the city and set a date.

2. Statewide walkable communities conference will be held in Ashland, October 5th. Registration from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM and the event will run through about 4 PM. KRTC invited to have a speaker. Contact: Sara Dunlap Sara.Dunlap1@ky.gov

3. Information on abandoned rail line in Bowling Green. From Helen Siewers. The 4200' Portage Railroad led from the Barren River "wharf" to the CSX line, and onward to the Warren County courthouse lawn. A historical marker for the PRR stands at the courthouse. After it was offered to the City (they declined), it reverted to adjacent property owners in 1995. City planners are hopeful, however, that we may yet be able to get a trail in with cooperative property owners. A 2400' spur line is still in TVA hands.

www.warrenpc.org/greenways.htm. 4/05.

4. KRTC has no more tote bags to give as promotional items with family memberships are **or not are** higher. . Letters are now being sent to new members thanking them for their membership and offering small and medium t-shirts.

5. Dixie Moore soon will be ready to give press releases on the Lexington Big Sandy Relay June 11, Rain date June 18th and to start signing up riders. The Ashland Cycling Club said they would get riders from Grahn east. The route will be posted on the website. Also article on the website on the history of the Lexington Big Sandy. Will also need some non rider volunteers with cell phones to coordinate on that day. First draft of press release circulated to the board is now on the website. It will be updated as refinements occur. Newspapers that she plans to contact are: Lexington Herald Leader, The Daily Independent, Ashland, The Morehead News, Mt. Sterling Advocate, The Winchester Sun, Olive Hill Times, Bath County News-Outlook, Grayson Journal-Enquirer, The Courier-Journal, The Eastern Progress, Kentucky Kernel, and The Trail Blazer (MSU)