WVCC Board Meeting Minutes, April 10, 2015, 4 pm, Steve Fowler’s office, Charleston

Attending: Dennis Strawn, Steve Fowler, Scott McMillian, Brendan Bell, Amanda Payne, and Kasey Russell, and on the phone is Nate Orders, Christiaan Abildso and Bill Wells.

Dennis Strawn, Board President, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Scott motions and Bill seconds to approve the minutes. Minutes are approved.

**National Trail Project**

Wells describes the National trail project. Most of it is outside the park boundary so local governments and private groups have been spearheading it. In Fayetteville, the four mile trail runs through downtown Fayetteville, by the courthouse, a block from shops, elementary school, through the Gaines Estate property, then about three miles that forms a loop around the Gaines Estate and high school property. The County Commission is supporting the project, and the town of Fayetteville has agreed to own the trail. The National Park Service is supporting the project. Total budget $430,000. $280,000 grant request. About 95 percent of the ROW is public property or private landowners that have agreed to the project. No one opposed so far ☺. The park super is working on different grant apps to help fund the project. Longer trail will be second phase – Fayetteville to Oak Hill (down to Beckley and hopefully north to Summersville). The trail will be considered a: Recreational trail – walking and cycling; probably start with compacted gravel, a mile and half is on city streets.

WVCC’s role will be to help with legal documents for this project (row, easements) and financial information and benefits of recreational trails.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Brendan’s financial report – balance is $35,243.75. $13,000 unencumbered; $22,000 being spent on the safety campaign.

**Future Funding:**

Amanda would like to see a better social media presence for WVCC. Kasey and Scott will meet next week to revamp the website and develop a plan to become more vibrant. **ACTION ITEM: please start sending Kasey items to post on the WVCC website. These items will be placed on the News Page. (Scott and Kasey met yesterday and will ask Maple Creative to add a BLOG page on the main tool bar. This will give approved folks the ability to post pictures, updates, etc. As Scott puts it so well, “…this will give the organization a history. You can always look at the blog and see everything we have ever done.”)**

Amanda has invited us to speak to the bike club in Huntington. Kasey will work with Amanda on this.

Other ideas where the WVCC could have a presence: April 30th in Summersville – HUB – community development; Huntington Sustainability Fair – May 16th.

**Past Business** – 2015 Legislative Session; League of American Cyclists – lobby trip to DC.

**Safety Campaign** – Maple Creative’s work. Kasey will send radio script and other info to WVCC list.

May National Cycling Month – Press conference on May 4th at 2:00 p.m. at Haddad Riverfront Park. Nate Orders, WVCC member; Brent Webster, Charleston Chief of Police; Tom Lane, invited; sponsors of the Bike Bill, to be invited; will be speaking at the press conference.

Great activity in Morgantown: Frank’s insert in the utility bill; funded by Allstate; Ask Frank Gmeindl or Jing Zhang if we can use their insert. We would need to seek funding to distribute it.

Bike to Work Day/Bike to School – May 15th Bike to Work in Charleston; Morgantown; Huntington; Put all that stuff on the website;

Huntington – Bike to Work week is May 11-15th; Senator Plymale will be biking around town. 7:30 to 10 am;

May 20th – Ride of Silence in Charleston.

Bike to School – May 6th – doesn’t have to be an actual ride: could go into schools and talk about cycling safety;

**State of Cycling and Walking – ACTION ITEM: if you know of a cycling or walking success in WV, please summarize and send to Kasey by the end of April. This document will be available online and a summary will be in the new WVCC brochure. Target audience: city councils, county commissions.**

Assorted Items:

Governor’s Highway Safety Fund – can any of this go to cycling? Kasey to follow up with Brent Walker.

Amanda -- RTI doing a crash data because there is no data out there. Policy change to change the form at police departments for ped/cycling crashes.

**New Business**

Elect new board members – Scott moves for Brendan to also be secretary. Amanda seconds. Motion carries.

We have room for more board members: would like representation from Lewisburg (John Francis has moved away) and Elkins.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING -- Bill Wells has invited us to Fayetteville. Mark your calendars for October 23-24. (More exciting on this weekend to come. Looks like it might be our first fundraiser with a speaker and dinner on Friday night in Beckley; long bike ride in Fayetteville on Saturday and maybe a bike clinic for beginners on Saturday as well. Overnight accommodations provided. If you are curious about details or want to help Kasey plan this event, please call her at 304.542.1994.)**

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.