** Board Meeting – Minutes**
**8 July 2013** at **7:00 p.m.**
**Jayne Snyder Trail Center**

Meeting **called to order** by president Karen Griffin at 7:00 p. m.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **In attendance (17)** |  |  | **Absent (13)** |  |
| Arp | Godfrey | Hirsch | Streich | Baker | Greene | Sonderup |
| Bleed | Griffin | Quackenbush | M. Torell | Bakewell | Heinrich | Thacker |
| Coble | Hammer | Scoby | Trout | Bentrup | Kellerman | B. Torell |
| Donaldson | Hershey | Stevens | Warren | Carveth | Loftis | Vannier |
|  |  |  | Wehrbein |  |  | Williams |

Guests: Lynn Johnson (Director of Lincoln Parks and Recreation), Miki Esposito (Director of Public Works & Utilities), David Pesnichak (Transportation Planner for Lincoln/Lancaster County), Terry Genrich (Manager of Trails/Natural Resources & Greenways), Randy Hoskins (Lincoln Traffic Engineer), and Dena Noé.

**Minutes** of the Board meetings of 13 May and 10 June (thank you, Nancy!) were approved as distributed.

**Treasurer’s Reports** submitted to the Board on 13 May and 10 June were approved.

**Nebraska Trails Foundation Report** wasdistributed.

**Crossing Light on the MoPac Trail at 33rd St** (Esposito, Hoskins, and Johnson)
The city has decided to install an RRFB (Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon)—yellow lights on both sides of the street that will flash immediately when activated by a push button or else when a pedestrian or cyclist is sensed. This will be the first signal of this kind to be installed in Lincoln, perhaps by Thanksgiving. If the results are satisfactory, similar lights may be installed at other trail crossings.

**Market to Market** (Arp for Bakewell)
The number of teams for the race scheduled for 12 October has been increased this year from 400 to 500.

* Coble moved Warren seconded that “GPTN agrees to become a community partner with Market to Market, as outlined in the signed agreement.” (GPTN agrees to provide 40 volunteers for the event.) Approved.

**Trail related public meetings**

* **Protected Bikeway on N Street: meeting and editorials**
Copies of the LJS editorial supporting the bikeway, and an op-ed opposing the bikeway, were distributed electronically. Griffin encouraged us to write supportive letters to the editor of LJS. Hammer suggested that Beth Thacker could compose a letter from the GPTN board, and noted that it would be prudent to solicit supporting testimony for possible future City Council hearings from individuals outside the bicycling community (e.g., health professionals).
	+ Stevens moved Bleed seconded that “GPTN endorses the concept of the protected bikeway on N Street, and looks forward to seeing the final design”. Motion approved.
* **South Beltway Public Meeting**

A linear park and accompanying trail along the south beltway are still possible, according to the Mayor. U.S. 77 north of the south beltway may or may not be closed to bicyclists, depending whether it is dubbed a “freeway” or an “expressway”. Bicyclists will not be allowed on the south beltway, but some appropriate route for bicyclists to reach 162nd St (state highway 43 to Bennet) and Highway 2 will be established. Hoskins encouraged the Board to continue pressuring NDOR to accommodate bicycles: comments at public meetings are seen by the federal Department of Transportation.

* **The Bison Bridge Dedication** was a “fun event” and received significant publicity.

**Wilderness Trails Article in LJS**Nice article about Rosina Paolini on the front page of the 6 July 2013 issue of the Lincoln Journal Star.

**Proposed GPTN 25th Anniversary**Al Laukitus will write an article for the LJS outlining the history of GPTN. The consensus of the Board was the Hammer, Vannier, and Thacker should be interviewed.

**Committee Updates**

* **Trail Trek**
1125 riders and 95 volunteers participated—down a little from last year, which had better weather. Signage was good. No negative comments heard.
* **Trail Activities** (no report)
* **Communications and Marketing**
Griffin outlined progress made on the new web site and encouraged the Board members to try it out. The “Donate” button will be turned off until the NTF web site is ready to accept donations.
* **Fundraising** (no report)
* **Membership**Godfrey invited members to go to their Facebook pages and “like” GPTN, encouraging their friends to “like” GPTN, too. (Details were later distributed electronically)
* **Trail Development and Promotion**It was noted that the Great Plains Bicycling Club is organizing trail discovery rides to acquaint their members with the trails in Lincoln.
* Genrich announced that the **trail signs project** was entering its next phase with way-finding signs and kiosks. Volunteers should contact his office.

 **Next GPTN Board meeting** will be 12 August.

**Adjournment** at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, William M. Wehrbein, secretary

Draft 12 July 13