

Minutes of the Kentucky Rails to Rails Council Board Meeting 1/18/04
6:30 PM - Tuesday 8th floor Conference Room
Lexington Fayette Co. Urban Co. Government Building
Main & Martin Luther King Blvd., Lexington KY

Attendance: Joe Bramer, Jeanette Coufal, George Ely, Boyd Shearer, Cheryl Wyatt, , Phyllis Hasbrouck, , Keith Lovan, ,Eddie Boden, Todd Geddes, Cindy Deitz, Dixie Moore. The meeting was chaired by Keith Lovan.

1. Call to Order:

2. Boyd Shearer talked about website and explained how it would run. He plans to move the website by the end of the week. Photos are requested for the website; please email them to Boyd at Boyd@outragis.com. He will also be changing the email address on the website that people use to get information. The new email address will be info@kyrailtrail. Keith Lovan is to send the new KRTC brochure to him in PDF format to put on the website. He would like to incorporate a clickable map.

3. The results of the first mailing to old members were reviewed. Approximately 70 people have joined or renewed their membership out of 400 people who have been members at some point since 1998. Brief discussion of doing a second mailing and/or follow up with phone calls.

4. Treasurers Report. Joe Bramer, Treasurer, reported that for the year 2004, KRTC took in \$400 more than our expenses. He will be working with Dean Dorton and Ford to have the books audited. Bud Watson is contact person at Dean ,Dorton and Ford . For 2005 he will be tracking renewals separate from new memberships. He requested a list of members as of 12/31/04 and in the past years so he could identify renewals.

5.. KRTC License plates. While Eddie Farrey was not at the meeting Keith Lovan relayed that Eddie feels support is not really there for the effort that would be needed to sell sight unseen license plates. Allison Smith appears to still be motivated to do a "share the road" license plate. Indiana has a combined shared the roads and a trail license plate which might be a model for KY.

6. Dixie Moore indicated that she will organize a mailer stuffing party to send out the KRTC bags and decals to new members who joined at the \$25.00 level or above.

7. Cindy Deitz is continuing to work on updating the Display board with maps and pics of KY projects. Dave Gagnon of BRTF has made a connection with Julie Maruskin of the Clark Co. Library and she has agreed to have the display there for the month of February. Dixie Moore will arrange to take the display from the Good Food Coop and take it to the Clark Co. Libs.

8. Keith Lovan and Dixie Moore will speak to the Kentucky Physical Activity Conference (through the KY Dept. of Health) on February 17, 2005, at the Marriot Resort in Lexington . 11:00, Thurs.

9. Discussion was had on the recommendations from the past Board Orientation Meeting on using a more succinct mission Statement. The Mission Statement developed at the Board Orientation was "The Kentucky Rails to Trails Council promotes and advocates for the establishment and use of rail trails and associated greenways in Kentucky." It was

voted on by consensus to use this as our mission statement.. The mission statement is shorter than the "Purpose" stated in our bylaws and used on the newsletter.

10. Dixie Moore brought up that the donation envelopes need to be reordered and this is a good time to resign their layout. Jeanette Coufal, chair of the finance committee agreed to look into this. Dixie Moore will give her examples of the old envelope and ones from other organizations.

11. It was moved and seconded to have Jodie Wells be the primary representative to the board from the Tyrone Bridge and Rail Co. and April Haight from the Daniel Boone RT Foundation.

12. It was moved and seconded to waive the \$25 fee per local group that is set in the bylaws for groups that have voting representation on the KRTC board for the year 2005. It was suggested that a letter be written to the local groups describing the relationship that does and can exist between the Council and local group and nonprofits in the state.

13. Keith Lovan reported that he and Dixie Moore have worked on establishing guidelines to have more uniformity in the term limits of the Directors and Representatives to the Council and to keep track of the information on a spreadsheet.

14. Keith Lovan summarized the recommendations in the Report from the Interim Joint Committee of Economic Development and Tourism. He will send out the recommendations in written form.

15. The MATAG Conference is July 26th-27th. (Mid Atlantic Trails and Greenways). Six states go to this conference, Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa, KY, Indiana, Ohio and Wisconsin. A call for nominations of person/s to represent KRTC at this conference was made. Lisa Rainey has agreed to speak at the conference. The conference will be in Minneapolis. KRTC has already agreed to be a sponsor (cost \$500). Someone from KRTC should be involved in the ongoing discussion by conference call of the selection of speakers. A motion was made and seconded for KRTC to sponsor someone up to a max of \$1000 to go toward transportation, meals and lodging and to attend the conference and to then to prepare a presentation on their return. Expenses to be approved by the board. Persons who are interested in representing KRTC should contact Keith Lovan. Keith Lovan indicated that he will probably attend the conference as part of his duties in his work for LFUCG.

A call was made for nominations of a person or project from Kentucky to be honored at the convention. It was moved and seconded to nominate Judge Rodney Kirtley and the Muhlenberg Trail as the person and project from KY.

16. Keith Lovan reported on a recent public meeting in Johnson Breathitt, Magoffin Counties. Kenny Book, Paula Nye, Brent Sweger, his wife and son and I (Keith Lovan) attended the meeting in Salyersville on Sunday 1/16/05. Close to 100 people were there all wanting the railroad to stay. The meeting was organized by Steve Allen from Magoffin Co who is a member of the Appalachian Railroad preservation group. He indicated that he wants the line to continue to carry freight and/or become a dinner train. Steve Allen of ARPA stated that he had investors willing to put up the money to save the railroad. Keith Lovan was asked to speak and told the audience that KRTC supported their effort to save the railroad but if no one could be found then KRTC would be interested in working with the 3 counties to convert the abandonment into a rail trail. There was no support for this idea from this group. A lot of the audience included adjacent property owners and their fear was the trail would be used by ATVs and drug

runners. 2 members of a local Fiscal Court were there stating that they were opposed to the trail and urged everyone to attend a later fiscal court meeting to let the judge and other fiscal court members know that they are opposed to the trail.. A representative from the Governor's office was also there to observe and gather information.

Suggestions were to ask the Department of Parks to get involved in educating the public about the feasibility of rail trails. Similar contacts can be made with GOLD, the Government of Local Development which has replaced the department of local Governments. Gracie Smith is a contact within GOLD. Suggestion was made to take people to a local trail in western KY.

17. Keith Lovan is interested in organizing a field trip to the rail trail portion of the Sheltoewe Trace. The suggestion was made to combine this with a trip to the Blue Heron Camp in the Daniel Boone National Forest in McCreary County where there is an abandoned rail corridor that may be useful as a railtrail.

18..Eddie Boden, reboden@qs.net, who attended the meeting volunteered his abilities as a photographer.

19. Cindy Deitz presented the application for "Get Fit Kentucky" Partnership. This is an organization that sees the Environment as infrastructure . There is no cost to belong. It was moved and accepted to continue with the application and to join the "Get Fit Kentucky" partnership.

20.Keith Lovan and Jodie Wells will speak at the Georgetown Model Railroaders. Chili cook off Jan 25th.

Next scheduled meeting will be February 15, 2005