

Minutes
Hazard Mitigation/ River Use Commission
Waverly Civic Center
7:00 pm, June 19, 2012

Attendance

Commissioners: Triplitt –Present Nielsen –Present Engel –Present Jacks –Present Turnball –Present Schloemer –Absent Neuendorf –Present	Staff: C.E. Cherry –Present C.A. Crayne –Absent	Guests: Kip Ladage Steve Main
	Liaison: C.C. Lieb –Present Mayor Brunkhorst –Absent	

Approve Agenda

Triplitt asked to add discussion of the INRCOG meetings for the Cedar River Water Trail under Project Status Report.

Motioned - Turnball, seconded - Engel, passed 6-0

Approve Minutes:

Turnball stated she was absent at the May meeting. Nielsen made the motion to approve minutes and seconded the motion for adjournment. These changes were noted.

Motioned - Engel, seconded - Turnball, passed 6-0

Questions/ Comments –None

Unfinished Business

- **Review Disaster Drill Tabletop Exercise, June 11th** – Engel stated he felt the drill went well. There was representation from many City departments including the hospital and Waverly Light and Power. The drill was a two-day rain event of 10-11 inches that caused flooding followed by a tornado on the third day. The group went through the scenario on how they would respond to and handle the situation. The goal was to look at the big picture items and determine how groups/departments would work together and also identify any gaps or things that had been overlooked in the Community Action Plan. A list of items to address and research was developed for further review. Engel stated in August there will be a review of those items. A document/summary will be put together for the commission with concerns to address and goals for going forward. Cherry added that part of the drill was to determine how all the groups work together and how to use volunteers in a disaster situation. Ladage added that a way to access key people to start the action process needs to be determined so things run timely and efficiently. He also stated that tracking volunteers is necessary. He felt the event was a good start to this process. Ladage raised the question about the current CodeRed plan the county has. It is \$9K/year for 30,000 minutes. Right now there are about 24,000 numbers registered in Bremer County. CodeRed is issued when there is a confirmed imminent threat to life or substantial property damage. The county has looked into other options that are similar. Discussion was held about the benefits of CodeRed and other companies.
- **Discuss River Clean-Up Day / Project** – A clean-up event had been planned for August 11th but Lieb wondered about changing the event to August 18th; this was the other option provided. Triplitt stated he would confirm that with Mayor Brunkhorst and also ask about coordination of the event. The clean-up would be from 8 am until noon and run from north city limits to south city limits.

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- **Community Action Plan** – Cherry presented the final update and discussed the risk of flooding and how changes have been made to accommodate the new dam. Focus will shift from the St. Paul’s area during a flood event to the SE Waverly area. The dam eliminates the flood risk to NW/SW Waverly for up to a 100 year flood event. He also discussed how to interpret flood warnings for Charles City and Janesville to determine how the river may be in Waverly. There is still the risk of a flash flood event. Lieb stated that the council is appropriating money to do a study of the dry run from Bremer Ave. to the point where it dumps into the river. This is Phase 1 of the Dry Run Project. This would include placing box culverts in a few key locations. Cherry discussed FEMA mapping to make changes to current flood plain maps. This would run \$40K-\$50K and could take two years to do the map amendment. This could benefit some downtown businesses by removing them from the floodplain, thus making them eligible for grant money.

New Business – None

Tabled Items – None

Project Status Report

- **Water Trail Signage** – Cherry stated that INRCOG is working on putting the water trail on a map. To be a DNR designated water trail, very specific signage is required. The plan is to follow the DNR specifics with signs.
- **INRCOG Meetings for Cedar River Water Trail** – INRCOG held two meetings for the Bremer County part of the Cedar River Water Trail. The first was a public visioning meeting and the second was for landowners. Lieb, Triplitt, Nielsen and Jacks attended the public meeting. INRCOG has created a website: www.cedarriverwatertrail.org where information about the water trail, ideas, concerns, feedback from the meetings, and other information about the project can be found. The website has information for both the Black Hawk and Bremer County portions of the water trail.

Subcommittees

- **River Use** – No report
- **Planning and Zoning** – No report
- **Soil and Water Conservation District** – No report
- **Community Action Plan** – Progress was made from the tabletop exercise with new things to look at and review for the plan.

Group Discussion

- Engel brought up the Concerts in Kohlman that take place on Thursday nights during the summer. He had talked with Tiffany at the Chamber about getting something going on the river those nights like the ski club, fireworks off the Rail Trail Bridge, kayaks or canoes on the river. June 21 and July 12 were given as options. CrawDaddy Outdoors is already promoting kayaking on the river during the June 28 and July 12 concerts.
- Lieb said he had spoken with Crayne and Mayor Brunkhorst about choosing a representative for the city to be part of the Upper Cedar River Watershed group. This person would attend meetings and report back as necessary to the commission, City Council, etc. They would like to have this person appointed by the end of June. Ladage stated he is already representing Bremer County with the group. Main said he would consider the position.
- Main asked Triplitt about where the Soil and Water Conservation District is in thinking on the Upper Cedar River Watershed. Triplitt stated that they appointed Ron Lenth to attend the meetings and report back, but Triplitt was not sure if they had signed the 28E agreement.

- Ladage wanted to raise awareness and begin thinking about the possibility of doing a triathlon and incorporating paddling on the river from Cedar Bend to Kohlman Park, biking the trail to Readlyn, running from Waverly to Readlyn, etc. He stated that Readlyn recently held a half-marathon and had a good turnout and feedback. This could be a great way to promote recreation and use of the river along with supporting the community and surrounding communities. A winter version including cross country skiing, snowshoeing, running, etc. could also be an option. The commission was interested in the idea and it will remain as a possibility.

Adjournment: Motioned –Turnball, seconded- Engel, passed 6-0