

**Minutes of the
Nonmotorized Recreation and Transportation Trails Council (NRTTC)
June 15, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Schmeckle Reserve, 2419 North Point Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54481**

1. Meeting was called to order by Dana Johnson. Members in attendance: Dana Johnson, David Phillips, Debbie Peterson, Joel Patenaude, Anne Murphy, Bill Hauda, Geoff Snudden, Rod Bartlow, Blake Theisen. Staff: Brigit Brown (Department of Natural Resources).
2. Meeting minutes from April 6, 2016 were approved.
3. Committee Chair Reports.
 - a. **Funding.** Bill Hauda brought up a recent meeting in California of major bicycle retailers, including Trek. (See 20Collective.org.) Among the discussion was a federal excise tax. Geoff Snudden said that Trek’s corporate focus is largely on funding existing successful channels, such as CAMBA (Chequamegon Area Mountain Bicycle Association), who then seem to be helping to mentor other smaller organizations.
 - b. **Outreach.** Joel Patenaude noted that Dana Johnson successfully created a QR code for NRTTC that links back to the NRTTC Facebook. Discussion of possibly soliciting feedback and interest in funding for nonmotorized trails on the Facebook page. Rod Bartlow suggested that Funding Committee investigate what types of funding ideas have been proposed or implemented directly related to funding all nonmotorized activities. Dana Johnson asked that the Outreach Committee put together a message that can be sent out to the NRTTC email list soliciting feedback about funding. That feedback would then be used by the Funding Committee to prompt their investigation of possible funding for nonmotorized trails. Ann Murphy noted that the Wisconsin State Horse Council meets next week and she will propose to get this on their agenda for a link to their Facebook page.
 - c. **Education.** Blake Theisen noted that the Outreach and Education have a very similar focus. Discussion about possible overlap and increased coordination between the two committees in the future.
4. **Report from the ad hoc committee to review DNR Master Plans.** Rod Bartlow provided a written report (attached). He and Dave Phillips reviewed plans and contacted DNR planners and property managers with additional questions about the proposed plans. Dave Phillips also talked about the road inventory project. Brigit Brown noted that it has been proposed to not include “roads” that are

used primarily as nonmotorized trails in the inventory. Council was supportive of this position. Rod Bartlow also suggested that NRTTC not only speak up when they see issues with a master plan but also to be supportive of proposed plan elements, such as with the nonmotorized trail work proposed for Brule River State Forest.

5. **Electric assist bikes** Discussion about the variety of types of motorized bicycles, and more in-depth talk specifically about electric motorized bicycles. Temporary working committee appointed (Geoff Snudden, Bill Hauda) to research and develop an NRTTC position on electric bicycle use, with a focus on human-powered (assist only) electric bikes, and imposing (posting, enforcement) speed limits. Brigit Brown noted that the NRTTC discussion is consistent with the DNR's current draft rules for motorized bicycles on DNR lands.
6. **Sauk Prairie Recreation Area** Discussion regarding the recent letter from National Park Service to the DNR, and the DNR's response. Rod Bartlow asked what the next steps would be, for example potential changes to the draft plan, and any opportunities for public input. Brigit Brown will get back to the council on this question.
7. **Discussion about NRTTC purpose and goals** Blake Theisen noted the NRTTC bylaws cite a number of purposes and goals for the council, asked for discussion of how others feel those are being met. Discussion about when the NRTTC has accomplished and what other ideas could help NRTTC move forward. Examples discussed were a repository for uploading county and local nonmotorized plans such as the information gathered for the Bikeways Project (county rec plans, bike ped plans) and the possibility of nonmotorized trails gathering.
8. **Discussion about roundabouts** Anne Murphy asked if other user group had issues with roundabouts. With horse trailers in particular. Brigit Brown noted that a number of user groups have complained about roundabouts and that discussions with WisDOT on this would be taking place, and encouraged groups to provide information about issues (and potential solutions) with roundabouts to her for inclusion in those discussions.
9. **Meeting schedule** Official start time for in-person meetings will be 10 a.m.; 11:30 a.m. for telephone meetings. Working lunch suggested for in-person meetings.
10. Future agenda items/tasks:
 - a. Joel Patenaude and Dana Johnson will solicit feedback from NRTTC mailing list about nonmotorized trail funding
 - b. Bill Hauda and Geoff Snudden will gather more information about electric bicycles, to be discussed at next meeting in anticipation of developing a position on the issue

- c. Brule River plan – Rod Bartlow will draft resolution of support for nonmotorized trail elements in the plan
- d. Brigit Brown to follow up on next steps for Sauk Prairie
- e. Investigate idea of conference/sharing event

11. Next meeting Wednesday, September 14, 11:30am-1:30pm (conference call)

Dana Johnson unable to attend, vice-chair Joel Patenaude will run the meeting.