November 29, 2018

11:30 A.M.

LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
210 RIVER DRIVE, WAUSAU, WI

Marathon County Mission Statement: Marathon County Government serves people by leading, coordinating, and providing county, regional, and statewide initiatives. It directly or in cooperation with other public and private partners provides services and creates opportunities that make Marathon County and the surrounding area a preferred place to live, work, visit, and do business. (Last updated: 12-20-05)

Commission Purpose: The Commission shall be concerned with studies and recommendations relating to activities including but not limited to land-use; natural resources; utilities; and transportation systems within the metropolitan planning area. (Commission Bylaws last updated: 06-18)

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

POLICY DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 25, 2018 MEETING
4. 2018 BIKE/PED COUNTER NUMBERS
5. REQUEST TO EXTEND BIKE ROUTE 14 IN TOWN OF WESTON
6. CWOCC MOUNTAIN BIKE FACILITIES UPDATE
7. NEXT BIG PROJECTS VISIONING
8. COMMUNITY UPDATES AND AREAS OF CONCERN
9. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA
10. NEXT MEETING DATE – DECEMBER 27, 2018/TBD
11. ADJOURN

Any person planning to attend this meeting who needs some type of special accommodation in order to participate should call the County Clerk’s Office at 715-261-1500 or e-mail infomarathon@mail.co.marathon.wi.us one business day before the meeting.

SIGNED \\

PRESIDING OFFICER OR DESIGNEE

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE:

FAXED TO: Daily Herald  City Pages
FAXED TO: Mid-west Radio Group - 848-3158
FAXED TO: CenterState Marketplace – 446-2370
FAXED BY: CK
FAX DATE: 11/16/18
FAX TIME: 3:15 p.m.
FAX BY/DATE/TIME: 

848-9361  848-5887
1. CALL TO ORDER
   Meeting called to order by Chairperson NOWACZYK at 5:30pm

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF (AUGUST 23, 2018) MEETING
   Motion/second by THUOT/ZEYGHAMI to approve the meeting minutes from the August 23 meeting. Motion carried by voice vote, no dissent.

4. E-BIKE RULES UPDATE
   LYNCH and NOWACZYK spoke with the combined Marathon County Parks and Forestry Committees on October 2nd about e-bikes. They covered e-bike functions, the different classes they are categorized in, and regulations. The committees were receptive to the idea of exploring this issue over the winter and noted it was an area where Marathon County could lead the state. There were concerns about how to enforce the new regulations and if it would invite risky behavior. BEATTY expressed reservations regarding the use of e-bikes and potential for conflicts with regular bikes. He felt these concerns were not adequately discussed with the committees at the time. The MPO committee felt it was good that e-bike regulations were being looked at since it is a growing segment of the biking market. It would also be helpful to have consistent e-bike ordinances across the communities.

5. WAUSAU CENTER MALL STREET DESIGN UPDATE
   SIPPEL presented an abbreviated version of the TOOLE DESIGN GROUP presentation on their initial design ideas for the streets surrounding the Wausau Center Mall. The Toole group had just finished a second week long design session in Wausau and unveiled their initial recommendations that included redesigns for the two intersections on either end of Forest Street. SIPPEL noted that the full TOOLE presentation was available on the City of Wausau website. TOOLE will take a couple of months to finalize their report, including cost estimates, and then present it to the City Council.

6. NEXT BIG COMMUNITY PROJECTS
   LYNCH asked committee members to discuss the next big projects for their communities or for the area. With some of the larger projects being built in 2019, it was time to start planning and requesting the next ones. LYNCH suggested that a good connection would be extending the trail on Camp Phillips/County X south and west into Kronenwetter and the intersection of County Road XX. It was noted that the right of way on Cty Rd X was big enough, there are no challenging grades, and minimal water issues. ZEYGHAMI was looking at the extension of the Mountain Bay Trail from the current western trail head to Camp Phillips Road. It is unknown at this time if the DNR had resolved the encroachment issues. THUOT mentioned his desire to have a bike/ped bridge across Business Hwy 51 and then also across the Eau Claire River to connect to Wausau as an alternative to Grand Avenue. BEATTY noted that many of the big projects in Rib Mountain were done, especially with the upcoming Trillium Lane trail, but an alternative crossing of the Rib River was desirable. There was discussion in previous years about an unused rail bridge south of the Hwy 29 and County Road O interchange. LYNCH also mentioned the need for a new bridge in Wausau from Winton Street to Schofield Park. Discussion of this item will continue in the future.
7. COMMUNITY UPDATES AND AREAS OF CONCERN

Schofield: Grossman Street reconstruction is finished with a parallel off-street trail all the way to the Eau Claire River edge. Beginning design work on the TAP project.

WESTON: Looking for the traffic counts on the Birch Street bridge.

CWOCC: First phase of Ringle trails is complete but not yet open to the public. CWOCC is still raising funds to complete the trails next year. It will be groomed for winter riding. RUFF discussed the application for IMBA Ride Center next year.

WAUSAU: The new park on the north side of the WOW restaurant is expected to be open in the Spring. River’s Edge Master Plan consultants are visiting Wausau on the 26th of October to collect data and input.

CHAIR: The local Cycling Without Age chapter has grant money ready and is only held up due to working out liability issues.

MAINE: The Village of Brokaw no longer exists; it has been fully incorporated into the Village of Maine. The Village is ‘open for business’ as they are trying to find ways to utilize and turn around the Brokaw area.

ASPIRUS: Aspirus has been looking to promote healthy activities and has considered investing in a bike share system. Their Trauma Center has seen more pedestrian injuries and they are looking for solutions.

8. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Requested status update on the mountain bike facilities being built or planned in the area.
Update on the seasonal numbers for Bike/Ped counters.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE – NOVEMBER 29, 2018

10. ADJOURN

Motion/second by MULLALY/BEATTY to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by voice vote, no dissent. Meeting Adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Submitted by:
David Mack
Program Manager/MPO Director
Marathon County
Conservation, Planning and Zoning/Wausau MPO