

### **BOARD**

Letty Schamp, Chair

Laura Ball

Kacey Brankamp

Leah Evans

Bertie Fields

**Catherine Girves** 

Autumn Glover

William Habig

Bill Hebble

Adrienne Joly

Dan Kaderly

Alex Nouanesengsy

Ted Miller

Al Obayuwana

Eric Oberg

Andrew Overbeck

Abby Rhodebeck

Kelly Scocco

**David Scheffler** 

**Tony Slanec** 

Scott Ulrich

Julie Walcoff

**Brad Westall** 

# **Staff Support**

Kerstin Carr Stephen Patchan Jasmine Walker Melinda Vonstein



# Central Ohio Greenways Board Meeting Wednesday, January 20, 2021 2:00pm – 3:30pm Microsoft Teams Meeting

#### NOTES:

Board Members Present: Laura Ball, Leah Evans, Bertie Fields, Catherine Girves, Autumn Glover, William Habig, Bill Hebble, Adrienne Joly, Dan Kaderly, Andrew Overbeck, Kelly Scocco, Letty Schamp, Scott Ulrich, Julie Walcoff

MORPC Staff: Melinda Vonstein, Stephen Patchan, Lauren Cardoni, Jasmine Walker, Ted Geer, Joe Garrity

## 1. Welcome & Introductions – Letty Schamp, COG Chair

a. Welcome new COG Board members

The COG Board voted to approve a change to the Board structure that would allow a few additional board members to serve. Previously the board structure allows 22 members to serve 2-year terms. The adopted changes allow up to 25 board members. The three additional seats will be considered "stakeholder seats" and will be available to community advocates, local private firms, or others at the discretion of the COG Chair and MORPC Executive director (William).

The Board welcomed new board members Autumn Glover and Bertie Fields. They will serve 2 year terms.

## 2. Legislative Updates – Joe Garrity

a. Capital Bill -

Approved Capital bill trails projects include the Alum Creek – Olentangy Connector, the Hudson trail, and heritage trail.

b. Federal Updates

The new transportation secretary is expected to introduce changes to transportation funding. MOPRC will continue to advocate for trail funding, monitor for updates, and report out changes.

# 3. Working Group Reports

- a. Operations & Access Catherine Girves, Working Group Chair
  - i. Social media outreach Jasmine Walker

Jasmine shared the results of recent social media engagement strategies, specifically to reach out to black owned business

The Central Ohio Greenways Board is part of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). Primary funding comes from partnerships with governmental entities through its Greenways program.



owners. The engagement on a single post indicates that there is interest from those who are invested in Black Owned businesses to learn more about COG and get involved in the work.

## b. Trail Development - Laura Ball, Working Group Chair

### i. Regional Trail Vision Updates – Melinda Vonstein

The Trail Development working group proposed 4 regional trail vision changes including a change in Lancaster, one near buckeye lake, one in Newark, and one near Alum Creek State park. All changes are being proposed because new understandings of feasibility indicate the routes are likely to be built or already built along an alternate route that meets Central Ohio Greenways regional trail standards. The Board adopted these changes.

## ii. COG Trail Prioritization Project - Top 10 projects - Melinda Vonstein

Melinda shared the results of the regional trail vision prioiritzation analysis. The highest scoring projects include the Downtown Trail, Linden Greenline, Hudson Trail, 161 Trail, Camp Chase Trail, and Schrock Rd Trail A final report in the form of a storymap will be finalized by March.

Letty asked the board to consider how the COG projects could be funded collaboratively. The question of joint federal funding applications was brought up by MORPC's Lauren Cardoni. Letty recommended that the Trail Development working group continue to explore collaborative funding strategies to complete these projects.

#### c. Marketing & Communications - Adrienne Joly, Working Group Co-Chair

#### iii. Loop and Event Planning

Adrienne share with the board the recent efforts to develop virtual and social distance event, passports, and opportunities to access the trail during the pandemic. The group is interested in the City of Dublin's bike loop plan and would like to discuss similar ideas with other regional stakeholders.

#### d. Partnership - Bill Habig, Working Group Chair

## iv. Impacts of Trails

An RPF is being release at the end of January to hire a consultant to address the return on investment of building the regional trail vision.

## 4. Other Business and Closing

#### a. Trail Counts



MORPC is reviewing 2020 trail count data and plans to have a report to share with the Board during the next meeting. MORPC also applied for RTC a grant to begin an improved trail monitoring program.

#### b. Rapid 5

Melinda shared that Rapid 5 efforts are getting ready to ramp up. MORPC's executive director, William Murdock is part of the executive committee advising on the development of the project. So far what is understood is that 5 landscape architecture/planning firms are being asked to reimagine 1 of each of the 5 main river corridors. This effort is currently separate from COG efforts, but COG will continue to share data and collaborate.

Next Meeting March 17, 2021 | 2:00 – 3:30