

**BID Committee  
July 24, 2019**

**Attending: Tara Anchor; chairwoman  
Kevin Ricks; BID  
Jesse DeFosse; BID  
Justin Draper; BID  
Adam Makowski; BID  
Dan Gavinski; BID  
Mark Sweet; BID**

**Mayor Ed Wojnicz  
Chris Tollaksen; Public Works  
Jenna Loda Eddy  
Brian Holzem  
Don Spearbecker**

**Meeting called to order by Chairwoman Tara Anchor.**

**Motion made by Justin Draper to approve July 10 minutes. Second by Adam Makowski.**

**Approved.**

**UPDATE: RAILROAD BRIDGE LIGHTING**

**Don Spearbecker from Joe Lord Systems updated BID on discussions held with representatives of Canadian Pacific (CP) Railroad. CP is asking for a lump sum one time payment from \$50,000 - \$100,000 pending legal fees for use of the bridge to install lighting. In addition, CP will demand that installation of fixtures take place from river barges which would add significantly to the overall cost of the project. Don's guess is the project would now cost in excess of \$300,000. No final decision was made about the future of the project, however consensus opinion of the committee was CP lump sum fee and their demand were excessive.**

**RIVER WALK ANCHOR PROJECT:**

**Design firm Zebra Dog reviewed plans for the super vignette which would be a freestanding structure at the entrance to the River Walk. Their recommendation was to reduce the height of the structure to 10 feet. Reason given was due to wind load. Reduction of the height by 3 feet should result in some savings on the final cost of the display. No action was taken on the ZD recommendation. ZD is also preparing a plan for a smaller display of the second anchor. Gail Jermier is gathering information for copy writing.**

**ILLINOIS AVENUE BANNERS:**

**Plans will be moving forward to order a bench for the Illinois Avenue bridge bump out area. Discussion centered on whether a bench plaque was the best way to recognize the Rotary Club contribution to the project. The bench plaque is limited to 4 lines and 26 characters. It was also felt that this would be the best time to honor Bill Brown's involvement with the River Walk since its inception. Ideas will be presented to BID on how best to honor Bill Brown.**

**DISCUSSION: TRAIL SYSTEM and PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE:**

**The following points were made n discussion:**

- 1. If use of DNR land is sought at some point in the process, the chances for their approval of the land use may improve measurably if a trail system is incorporated into the plan.**
- 2. An element of honoring the Ho-Chunk Nation and their connection to the land would also give us a better opportunity to gain DNR approval.**
- 3. Demonstrating a viable pathway connection from this area on Stand Rock Road to the new high school would showcase a safe walking/biking alternative for students living on the east side of the river. Application for grant funds for this project could come into play.**

- 4. Showing a plan to construct a pedestrian bridge over the river and connecting with the existing River Walk also could be beneficial to obtaining DNR approval.**
- 5. There is privately owned land next to the DNR area which could be pursued to start the project.**
- 6. Connection of this trail project with the planned senior living project at Riverwood would also be positive.**
- 7. A detailed plan would need to be prepared for the trail project to gain state DNR approval.**

#### **DISCUSSION: CANOE PARADE**

**If this project were to happen it is still felt that it belongs on Hwy. 13-23 for maximum visibility. That would require State DOT approval which has already been rejected on the bridge. Lower Dells area was noted as an alternative to the bridge. Support was still expressed for the concept, however because of this issue it may not be considered a high priority for the 2020 budget. If Dot approval is not received, an additional alternate location for the Canoe Parade could be as part of a trail system on the west side of the river.**

#### **OTHER UPDATES:**

**The city Planning Commission approved the closure of Elm Street by Chalet Lanes for a future public plaza area. It is expected that the Public Works and Finance Committees will have input in the approval process. It may go to the City Council in September. There is a grant program for development of the plaza which the city expects to pursue. Cost of the infrastructure repairs under Elm Street are expected to be considerable, but no precise numbers have been attached to the project. With all approval in place, it is still not expected that an Elm Street Plaza could be operational until 2021.**

#### **DISCUSSION: 2020 BUDGET PLANNING:**

**Lines items of the 2019 Operational Budget were reviewed to start the process of determining priorities for 2020 funding. Process will continue at the next several meetings.**

**Motion to adjourn made by Justin Draper. Second by Dan Gavinski. Approved.**