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**Trails Committee Meeting Minutes  
September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
5021 Winners Circle Drive  
Liberty Township, Ohio 45011  
Regular Meeting  
6:00pm**

**CALL TO ORDER:** THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AROUND 6:00 PM

***Committee Members in attendance:***

- *Bob Hesselgesser*
- *Dennis Neel*
- *Tim Kasberg*
- *Dave Goldberg*
- *Bill Walker*
- *Greg Freson*
- *Jim Lundgren*
- *Becky Bolser*
- *Suzan Bruce*

***Staff in attendance:***

- *Bryan Behrmann (Director Planning and Zoning Department)*
- *Mark Elma (Senior Planner)*

**AGENDA ITEMS**

*Bryan Behrmann presented the PowerPoint presentation for each section of the Comprehensive Plan as they were discussed. Mr. Behrmann explained how each section related to the Trails plan.*

- **Trails Plan Vision Statement Review**
  - Vision Statement – Mr. Behrmann explained the Strategic Pyramid and how it related to the Trails Vision Statement and specific trails ideas. A short discussion followed regarding the Vision Statement. The committee felt the regional connection was important and needed to be “bumped up.” Mr. Freson stated he would formulate a draft statement and email it to the committee.
- **Trails Plan Goals & Objectives Review**
  - 2020 Comprehensive Plan Goal #1 – *Liberty Township will support the expansion and maintenance of a safe and efficient vehicular and pedestrian transportation network.* Mr. Behrmann explained how goal #1 was to be met through the trails plan and the partnerships that will be required to meet the goal.

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- 2020 Comprehensive Plan Goal #5 - *Liberty Township will retain and support the growth of existing businesses.* Mr. Behrmann explained the details of goal #5.
- **2013 Overall Goals:**
  - *Mr. Behrmann presented the Overall Goals identified in the 2013 trails Plan.* The committee discussed each of the five goals. The committee felt it was important to include language about applying for appropriate grant funds as they came available. The committee discussed the formation of a 501C3 to manage the funds that could go towards the development of trails to help meet the overall goals. The discussion continued about creating a signage package for all trails in Liberty Township and some of the existing obstacles to connecting the trails.
- **2013 Bicycle Goals:**
  - *Mr. Behrmann presented the Bicycle Goals identified in the 2013 trails Plan. The committee discussed each of the six goals.* Mr. Elma led the discussion of applying for a Bicycle Friendly Community status from the League of American Bicyclists. The committee felt this was in an important initiative. Discussion continued about adding bike friendly amenities to township facilities and encouraging local businesses to do the same. The bike enthusiasts on the committee discussed the challenges of using the existing bike system, and felt it was important to making a bike loop to better serve the cyclists of the township.
- **2013 Pedestrian Goals:**
  - *Mr. Behrmann presented the Pedestrian Goals identified in the 2013 trails Plan. The committee discussed each of the six goals.* The discussion about pedestrian goal included the importance of making the connections throughout the township. The committee asked is there was a standard width for the trails and sidewalks. Mr. Behrmann explained the typical standard and the board discussed the expenses assorted with redoing trails.
- **2013 Trails Goals:**
  - *Mr. Behrmann presented the Trails Goals identified in the 2013 trails Plan. The committee discussed each of the four goals.* The committee discussed the need to “rustic” type trails for the hikers and mountain bikers. Members also stated that a 3-6 miles trail would be the minimum length of a rustic trail to make it useable for a trail hiker or mountain biker. Examples of these types of tails were provided Keener Park, Huston Park etc.
- **Goals Format:**
  - *Mr. Behrmann presented a draft of the goal format for the new Trails Plan. The committee liked the format and list but felt funding sources should be added as a section.*

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- **Regional Connection and Destination Identification**

- *Bryan Behrmann presented the PowerPoint reviewing the regional trails, regional trail network, regional trails survey results and the existing points of interests. The committee discussed the existing regional trails system and the importance of Liberty Township to connect into it. Discussion continued about points of interest in Liberty Township that included schools, parks, township buildings and big retail businesses; Costco, Cincinnati-Dayton road, and other business corridors.*

- **Homework**

- Bryan Behrmann presented the PowerPoint reviewing on the roads connections in preparation for next month's meeting.

*The trails committee meeting ended at 7:48 pm*