

Minutes of the Tama-Toledo Healthy Hometown Steering Committee

February 1, 2024
Wieting Theater

Present: Larry Thomas, Shelly Riley, Dorothy Zmolek, Mark McFate
Denise Fletcher, Jeff Shaw and Karen Mixdorf and Lori Baier

The group discussed how to share the goals of our group with the STC School Board related to the HWY 63 crossing. Karen suggested we ask to be placed on the agenda to share the progress on the crossing and answer questions.

A decision will be made in early March about our application for a DOT grant for the 16th Street and HWY 63 crossing. As mentioned at our January meeting, the Tama City Council is including the matching fund expense of \$42,000 in this year's budget to cover the remaining balance if we receive the grant.

Larry gave a City of Tama update. The city is working on a plan for a sidewalk along 16th Street starting at the proposed HWY 63 crossing as well as a sidewalk along McClellan Street by Oak Park.

Recreation trail signs will be ordered through the City of Tama from Iowa Prison Industries soon. Karen and Shelly plan to double check the number of directional signs and posts needed before ordering.

Jeff has been exploring options for creating community raised beds in Toledo Jim Roan is interested in helping with this project. Jeff will invite him to our April meeting. Details are in the beginning stages of development.

Spring/summer activities were discussed. Denise visited with Jeff Jensen from Trees Forever about doing a tree walk. He will connect with Denise to plan the details. Karen also mentioned Brandon Sieck from DNR could possibly help with an outdoor event for the community.

Another option is Joanne Hayward Helm has done research on historical Tama buildings and businesses; this could be a possible Geo-caching or self-guided walk around Tama. Denise will work with Joanne pin point the building coordinate points to Mark for possible geo-caching. It was mentioned that Joanne will be doing a "cemetery walk" in July with QR codes so the community can learn about people in history from Tama.

Larry will ask Shayla if she is willing to lead the Family Fun Day event again this year. Possible date could be the first Saturday in June.

Lastly, Denise proposed a conversation of how to create a pathway for kids to get to the new Middle School safely.

Mark your calendar for the March 7th meeting at 5:30 PM at the Tama Civic Center.