

Organization River Area Council of Governments

Board Recreation

Date and Time Tuesday, October 14 2003 at 7:00 PM

Place Town of Wilna Municipal Building 414 State St Carthage NY

Contact [Chris Vargulick](#) Town Clerk Phone (315) 493-3240 Fax(315) 493-2900

Minutes

Present: J. Agresti(V/W Carthage), H. Armstrong(T/Champion),
M. Franchini(T/Wilna), C. Redfield(Youth Club),
T. Stewart(T/Champion), P. Strife(T/Wilna), and R. Vary(V/Carthage)

Guests: Ken Smith and Mark Miller, Missing Links Snowmobile Club

Absent: B. Draper(V/Carthage), W. Monaghan(V/W Carthage),
J. Ring(CCSD), J. Scott, Jr.(V/W Carthage)
and J. Trowbridge(V/Carthage)

Chairwoman Strife called the meeting to order at 7:02PM and introduced invited guests. Ms. Strife reported that members J. Ring, J. Scott, and J. Trowbridge have asked to be replaced on the committee and will request that their respective constituencies appoint new representatives.

Ken Smith discussed the status of the RACOG project to construct a multi-use recreational bridge. The single span bridge would be open to pedestrians, non-motorized transportation and snowmobiles. All terrain vehicles would be prohibited due to the lack of an organized trail system that would utilize the bridge. The Jefferson County Legislature has approved a resolution to accept ownership and responsibility for the bridge from RACOG after construction has been completed. The bridge is expected to have a significant positive affect on the economy of the local region through its impact on local manufacturing and tourism. Mr. Smith responded to questions from the committee.

Mark Miller discussed the scheduled February 2004 "Legislative Ride". The ride is organized to give local and state legislators a "hands on" opportunity to ride the trails and evaluate the impact on the area. Missing Links Snowmobile Club has volunteered to sponsor the event.

P. Strife presented a map of local trails, including Liberty Street, the Village of Carthage recreation park, and the trail behind the Niagara Mohawk transfer station in Carthage, complete with color photographs illustrating the condition of the trails and their scenic value. She noted that some of the trails need maintenance and signage. M. Miller suggested that the snowmobile club could assist in maintenance and measuring the trails. C. Redfield discussed drainage that would improve some trails. Committee members discussed additional uses for the trails including cross country skiing and dog sledding.

P. Strife distributed written information regarding the role and tasks of the joint recreation committee for the members review.

C. Redfield reported on the activities and focus of the Carthage Youth Club including efforts to expand program services. P. Strife offered the committee's support to advance the effort and suggested fund raising activities including a "Support a Kid" program and a spaghetti dinner.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26PM. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 11, 2003 at 7PM at the Town of Wilna office.