

IARP Summer Meeting  
July 23, 2011  
Radisson Hotel, Davenport, IA

Gordon Canfield called the meeting to order at 1:06PM

Rick Harnish , Midwest High Speed Rail Association

President Obama is a champion for High Speed Rail. He is the first president to advocate for high speed rail.

It is a myth that highways pay for themselves. \$133 billion more needed for highways over user fees

We need people to ask for passenger service. We can sign in to the website [www.standupfortrains.org](http://www.standupfortrains.org). Fifteen congress persons have stood up in bipartisan support. 10,000 people need to sign up before September.

We need to ask our elected representative for increased funding for high speed rail. New rolling stock is needed to increase service throughout the Midwest.

The legislators are in a lull till September.

High Speed is anything over 90mph

The Honorable Iowa Representative Cindy Winkler

Representative Winkler is the state representative for Davenport. Representative Winkler said that we need an alternative source of transportation for Iowa. She supports the efforts to bring passenger train service to the Quad Cities and Iowa City. Rural representatives do not support passenger train service. She does not understand Governor Branstad's opposition to Rail

Iowa leads the nation in paved roads per capita

The Legislature voted to end membership in Midwest rail compact

Lt Governor Reynolds supports passenger train service to Iowa

Rebecca Neades, Vice President of Public Policy, Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce

Our window of opportunity is closing with the Iowa Legislature. We need the Governor to sign authorization to spend funds in order to move the project forward. We need people to write the Governor

Cities and towns have committed funds for operating expenses but state has to sign off for service.

Gordon Canfield, IARP President

We are a small organization but we have the power call and write.

Some state legislators only think the train will benefit towns along the route.

We need to develop a template for a letter that members can use to write to their legislators.

We need to use the Illinois Zephyr as a model to show how reliable and well patronized a train can be.

Grinnell college students are planning to write letters of support for the train.

A train would improve quality of life.

President Canfield met with our webmaster. We need to improve our website.  
We need to make it timelier

Paul Trombino, our DOT director came from Wisconsin. He wants to speak to our group

New membership cards are being designed and prepared for sending out for members.

Our next meeting will be in Ottumwa. Members will be able to vote between two dates. These dates will not be Iowa or Iowa State home game days.

Rebecca Neades motioned to adjourn. Gordon Canfield 2nd the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:08PM