



Friends of the Musketawa Trail Board Meeting

Thursday, April 3, 2025

7:00 p.m. Ravenna Village Office
12090 Crockery Creek Road



*Millennium Trail 2000
National Recreation Trail 2008*



MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Attendees: Tim Nink, Paul Boucon, Mark Fritsma, Diana Holovka, Oscar Reed, George Czinder, Gary De Kock, Linda De Kock, James Smith and Cari Draft

Guest: Josh West

1. **Meeting called to order 7:00pm** : Tim Nink, president
2. **Secretary report - Cari Draft** : Meeting minutes from October 3 reviewed; Motion and second to approve as written. Unanimously approved.
3. **Treasurer report - Diana Holovka** : Diana reviewed her records for us. No questions; Motion & second to approve treasurer's report. Unanimously approved.
4. **Correspondence**
 - a. Emails: Tim noted one lady inquiring about memorial benches.
 - b. Mail correspondence: Diana reported no notable mail.
5. **Trail Manager Report from Muskegon County/Greg Sherburn via email to Tim:**
Standard maintenance; port-a-jon at Broadway Trailhead will go in soon. Steve will be back on trail maintenance end of April.
Trail Manager Report from Kate Alvarez/Ottawa County via email to Tim:
Ottawa County portion of the trail reconstruction has begun!
6. **Website & Facebook page:** Cari asked about updating the copyright footers; Tim took care of this after the meeting. Discussion to add Cari as an admin to the Facebook page; motion and second, unanimously approved. There is a website typo that needs to be corrected on FB.
7. **Current Expenditures/Reimbursement:** With our seasonal newsletter, we send out roughly 300 newsletters with donation envelopes. Diana mentioned donation envelope supply is running low. Gary made the motion to "pre-approve" Diana ordering new batch of donation envelopes when they run out; motion seconded and unanimously approved. Cost will be approx. \$345 for 2,000 envelopes.
8. **Brochure/trail map:**
 - a. Tim has more packs of our trail brochures if anyone sees a need anywhere!
 - b. Tim noted that **updated maps** will be needed because of construction & new membership pricing, mileage marker identification, etc.
9. **PROJECT LIST**
 - a.) **Current 2025 & beyond:**
 - i. Web page & signage about Musketawa Trail rebuild in partnership with West Michigan Trails. On 4/22 Tim & Gary will meet with Jill (DNR) and John (WMT) about path forward for fund drive for trail rebuild "extras."

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- ii. Annual spring cleanup of Broadway Trailhead scheduled date is April 19, 8am. (Cari)
This usually takes between one and two hours; all help is appreciated. Cari created a save-the-date JPG, also see below. Tim & Cari will bring rakes, bags and gloves; Cari will bring treats, Tim/Sheri will bring perennial flowers to plant.
- iii. Caboose/Depot "Open House Days" will need volunteers to help Gary & Linda in Ravenna. Dates are on Saturdays **June 7, July 12 & August 2**, each day **9 AM to 1 PM**.

b.) Future/longer term:

- i. Webpage and **signage** about Musketawa Trail rebuild in partnership with West Michigan Trails is in process and we have laminated posters for the trailhead kiosks. Yard signs to come.
 - ii. Cari can revise her **"Musketawa Farewell Cruise"** event plan she presented at the August 2024 meeting to be a **celebration of the new pavement**. Ideas for a name: **Pothole-Free Fiesta, Smooth Operator Ride or Asphalt Appreciation Ride**.
More discussion of promoting it as a family-style slow-roll type event. Plan will remain on "pause" until we know firm construction dates, most likely the ride will be Spring 2026.
 - iii. **Ed Holovka Memorial**, to be located at the Muskegon/Broadway trail head. The most updated "shortfall" needed for the project to move forward is \$12,500.
Jill Sell (DNR) recommends waiting until trail reconstruction happens to begin project.
Also noted, more delays on trail reconstruction with more culvert replacements identified.
Official reconstruction dates still unknown.
 - iv. **Last bike repair station** to go along with Ed Holovka Memorial in Muskegon (purchased)
10. Gary and Linda gave summary of their participation of **"Quiet Adventures Symposium"** and **"West Michigan Trails Summit"** on March 6. Roughly 800 attendees at the symposium in Lansing; Gary & Linda reported this is well-worth our time and cost to be involved.
11. Remaining Friends Board meeting dates for 2025:
6/5, 8/7 and 10/2 (Thursdays at 7PM in Ravenna)
12. **Motion to Adjourn** at 7:46pm, seconded and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Cari Draft, Secretary 4/15/25

