



# Friends of the Musketawa Trail Board Meeting

Thursday, April 4, 2024

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, Gary DeKok, George Czinder, Oscar Reed, Diana Holovka, Cari Draft and James Smith  
**Guests:** Andy Hehl and Mark Bushard

1. **Meeting called to order 7:05pm** : Tim Nink, president
2. **Secretary report - Cari Draft** : Meeting minutes from October 5 reviewed; Motion and second to approve as written. Unanimously approved.
3. **Treasurer report - Diana Holovka** : No questions; Motion & second to approve treasurer's report. Unanimously approved.
4. **Correspondence**
  - a. Emails: none! Quiet through the winter months!
  - b. Mail correspondence: Nothing to note.
5. **Trail Manager Report from Muskegon County/Greg Sherburn**: Portajohns will be dropped off soon; Steve will be back on maintenance for the spring & summer season.  
Report from **Jill Sell of DNR** via email to Tim: Tim read to our group and will be checking to see what information can be released to the public in our next newsletter; looking like preliminary work could begin on trail reworking as early as fall of 2024. Report from **Kate Alvarez/Ottawa County** via email to Tim: more of the same, excited for spring.
6. **Website** : Cari asked if it's easy to update the footer "*Copyright ©2017-2022 Friends of the Musketawa Trail. All rights reserved.*" to be 2024 instead of 2022; Tim will check into it.
7. **Current Expenditures**: Requests for reimbursement - none noted.
8. **Brochure/trail map**: Cari took two packs to distribute. Whoever needs more, contact Tim! Gary mentioned there is a new bike shop called Rebel in Grand Rapids.
9. **PROJECT LIST - 2024 completed/current/future**
  - a.) **Completed 2024**:
    - i. TBD.
  - b.) **Current/existing 2024 and beyond**:
    - i. Cari organized the Broadway Trailhead Cleanup event again to coincide with Earth Month, the morning of Saturday, April 13 from 8am to 10am. Board members please save the date to join us, remember, always yummy treats after! (smile)
    - ii. Tim to repaint the metal arts bike rack unit in Marne; Oscar brought the paint for Tim. (Bike racks in Ravenna & Muskegon were repainted in 2023.)
    - iii. Stain the deck next to the trestle at Rio Grande crossing. Kate (Ottawa County Parks) has offered to powerwash. Tim will check with Kate to confirm that still needs to be done, or if there is another plan when the trail rework happens.
    - iv. Gary and Linda are planning to continue "Open House Days" for the caboose & depot in Ravenna. Dates will be Sat. June 1 and Sat. August 3 (avoiding the July holiday weekend)

(continued)

from 10am to 2pm again. Gary will set up the tent and bring water along with the keys to unlock the depot, and requests volunteers help.

**c.) Future/longer term:**

- i. Ed Holovka Memorial, to be located at the Muskegon/Broadway trail head. The most updated cost of the metal 12' x 12' structure is \$18,258.  
Discussion construction and fundraising goals; Diana suggested delaying the roof portion for now. George suggested that Tim request the mounting pattern for the posts from the structure company so that can be planned accordingly.
  - ii. Last bike repair station to go along with Ed Holovka Memorial in Muskegon (purchased)
  - iii. Other discussion: Oscar gave a report on the Red Barn easement and the solar farm being located at the property. Access will need to be revised and Oscar is reaching out to involved parties, including Senator Bumstead.
10. Fall 2023/Winter 2024 issue of Friends Newsletter needs to be drafted; Diana mentioned it should go out at the end of April. Tim indicated needing help if that's the case. If board members have anything to go in the newsletter, they should reach out to Tim ASAP.
  11. Remaining Friends board meeting dates for 2024: **6/6, 8/1 & 10/3** (all Thursdays at 7PM in Ravenna)
  12. Discussion/informal reports regarding other bike paths under construction and planned for construction.
  13. Guest Mark Bushard, member of Cari's Bike Path Riders group, attended to learn more of what's going on with the reworking of the Musketawa. Guest Andy Hehl attended to learn more about the culvert washout happening on his property along the trail between Conklin & Marne in Ottawa County. He's now connected to Jill Sell/DNR, who's on vacation this week, for answers.
  14. Diana asked about our annual donation of \$250 to West Michigan Trails; discussion. Motion seconded and unanimously approved to send that same donation amount this year.
  15. **Motion to Adjourn** at 7:45pm, seconded and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cari Draft, Secretary 4/4/24