



Friends of the Musketawa Trail Board Meeting

Thursday, April 6, 2023

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



Millennium Trail 2000
National Recreation Trail 2008

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Attendees: Tim Nink, James Smith, Paul Boucon, Mark Fritsma, Gary DeKok, George Czinder, Diana Holovka and Cari Draft

Absent: Joan Schmitt and Oscar Reed

Guests: Kate Alvarez and Neil Heyen

1. **Meeting called to order 7:01pm** : Tim Nink, president
2. **Secretary report - Cari Draft** : Meeting minutes from October 6 reviewed; motion and second to approve as-is. Unanimously approved.
3. **Treasurer report - Diana Holovka** : Motion & second to approve treasurer's report. Unanimously approved. Mark Fritsma gave his donation to Diana today.
4. **Correspondence**
 - a. Emails: Tim noted no emails to mention, but the usual chatter on the facebook page regarding the trail condition.
 - b. Mail correspondence: Diana received a note from Bruce Jones, who facilitated getting the caboos repainted; he was also instrumental in getting the caboos placed originally.
5. **Trail Manager Report from Muskegon County/Greg Sherburn** via email to Tim: Spring trail conditions as expected, nothing new to report other than the car accident at the entrance of the Broadway Trailhead, which demolished the stop sign and the flower box. Cari salvaged the oval dedication plaque from the front of the flower box (this was new in 2022) and James and Tim will build a new flower box and attach the plaque on our cleanup day April 22. Report from **Kate Alvarez/Ottawa County**, in attendance: she reiterated what Greg said, the Ottawa County section of the trail is as expected for spring conditions. They've procured crushed stone to fill woodchuck holes and have acquired a new sidecut arm-style brush cutter for trail use.
6. **Website** : Tim will continue to add agenda & minutes, and will attempt to update copyright years on the footer to include 2023.
7. **Current Expenditures**: Requests for reimbursement from Tim (\$29.11) for materials; no other requests. Reimbursement approval first & seconded and unanimously approved.
8. **Brochure/trail map**: Discussion; Motion made and seconded and unanimously approved to order 5,000 (cost of \$1060) this time as last year's batch went quickly. No additional sponsor money will be requested.
9. **Project list - 2023 and beyond**
 - a.) **Current/existing 2022**:
 - i. Cari Draft will organize a Muskegon/Broadway Trailhead cleanup volunteer event for Saturday, April 22 at 10:30am to coincide with Earth Day similar to last year. Tim and James plan to arrive earlier to complete the build on the flower box replacement at the entrance. Tim will arrange for Greg's crew to pick up bags we fill; Cari will secure the bags from Subaru like last year.

(continued)

- ii. Ravenna Trailhead caboose **Open House** days will again be coordinated by Gary and Linda on Sat. June 3, Sat. July 1 and Sat. August 5 from 10am to 2pm. Gary will set up the tent and bring water along with the keys to unlock the depot, and is asking for volunteers to help with shifts. If anyone is interested and available, Gary says it is "easy work"; contact him at gdecock@gmail.com.
- iii. Paul has reviewed and revised the FOTMT Bylaws and provide copies of old vs. new for the board members to review and compare. We'll discuss again at the June meeting if needed.
- iv. The concrete pad was poured last week for the Sharon Davis Memorial metal arts bike rack. Tim will install on April 16 with Sharon's son, Todd Davis. Friends previously approved covering the costs from the Sharon Davis Memorial Fund.
- v. Tim installed trail etiquette laminated signs and gave extras to Kate Alvarez.

c.) Future/longer term:

- i. Ed Holovka Memorial, to be located at the Muskegon/Broadway trail head. This topic was discussed again; Tim was advised by Jill Sell **NOT** to wait to incorporate into the trail resurfacing project, as that is now looking like end of 2025/early 2026. Tim presented plans for a metal 12' x 12' structure at a cost of approx. \$15,000. Discussion to set goal of Spring 2024 for construction, provided we raise the funds needed by then; need ideas for fundraising and grant requests by our next meeting to create a plan to acquire additional funds over the next few months.

10. Discussion regarding our annual donation to West Michigan Trails for \$250; motion, seconded and unanimously approved to send donation.
11. Diana set the deadline for our next newsletter content for the first week of May; Tim will gather photos and info, including photos he'll take at our Clean Up Day on April 22.
12. Remaining Friends board meeting dates for 2023: **6/1, 8/3 and 10/5** (all Thursdays at 7PM in Ravenna) Mark will miss the June meeting and James will miss the August meeting.
13. Miscellaneous/Other News
 - a. Mark mentioned updated reflective mile markers; discussion, and Tim will reach out to John Morrison at West Michigan Trails regarding possible funding options.
 - b. Mark offered to lead a group ride on the River Valley Rail Trail, Cari will coordinate with him & create the event this summer.
 - c. Guest Neil Heyen of North Muskegon attended to learn about trail resurfacing plans; he rides the Musketawa often and hopes to join our Clean Up Day at the Broadway Trailhead on April 22 at 10:30am.
 - d. Current trail is 12' wide. Tim noted that Jill Sells/DNR said repaved trail will be 10' wide, using the 2' as unpaved shoulder for horses. Estimate is \$16 million for trail only.
14. **Motion to Adjourn** at 8:01pm, seconded and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Cari Draft, Secretary 4/6/23