



# Friends of the Musketawa Trail Board Meeting

Thursday, August 4, 2022

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, Joan Schmitt, Oscar Reed, George Czinder, Diana Holovka and Cari Draft  
**Absent:** Mark Fritsma, Gary DeKok  
**Guests:** Greg Sherburn/DNR, Jill Sell/DNR, Char Kluting, and Melissa Thatcher & Maryde Housler from the Ravenna Museum

1. **Meeting called to order 6:55pm** : Tim Nink, president
2. **Secretary report - Cari Draft** : Meeting minutes from April 7 and June 2 reviewed; motion and second to approve as-is. Unanimously approved.
3. **Treasurer report - Diana Holovka** : Motion & second to approve treasurer's report. Unanimously approved. Motion & second to approve reimbursements; Unanimously approved.
4. **Correspondence**
  - a. Emails: Tim noted nothing of importance.
  - b. Mail correspondence: Diana noted none.
5. **Trail Manager Report** from Muskegon County/Greg Sherburn: the two concrete pads were poured today, 8/4, see Project list "b.i." below for that info. Paul suggested raising the parking crossing arm at the Ravenna Trailhead; after our meeting George, Tim & Cari checked out the arm and determined a plan to get that task done.
6. **Sharon Davis Memorial topics** : Our guest Char explained plans; Ron has permit to have ATV on trail between 2 and 4 for the event; table will be set up at the Conklin trailhead to collect donations for the trail in Sharon's memory. Metal bike rack is being fabricated by Sharon's nephew Todd (GripTrack) and someone (or multiple family members) will be riding Sharon's eBike. UPDATE: The event was officially canceled due to weather but family members were still getting on the trail in Sharon's memory on 9/11 as planned.
7. **Website** : Tim swapped-in the MI Trails logo.
8. **Current Expenditures**: No requests for reimbursement.
9. **Brochure/trail map**: More brochures are available for future events. The Visitor's Bureau in Muskegon contacted Cari about getting 200 brochures for their case. Tim gave those to Cari at a group ride in September and Cari took them to the Visitors Bureau - Bob was appreciative.
10. **Project list - 2022/pending or future**:
  - a.) **Completed 2022**:
    - i. Ed Holovka Memorial marker/post was installed by Tim Nink and Ron Bragg.
    - ii. Volunteer clean-up of the Musketawa Broadway Trailhead was completed April 23.
    - iii. Volunteer Trails Clean Up Day in conjunction with Ottawa County Parks & Recreation happened on June 4, great participation by volunteers, several hours of tree-trimming completed of the "face slappers" (smile)
    - iv. Replacement memorial plaque for Eric VerHaar purchased and installed in Muskegon.
    - v. Two Open House days have taken place at the Ravenna trailhead for the caboose

*(continued)*

and depot, 6/25 and 7/23. A big THANK YOU to Gary and Linda for hosting these and coordinating volunteer efforts, and thanks to Paul & Tim for taking shifts. Gary & Linda plan on more of these happening in September.

**b.) Current/existing 2022:**

- i. Bike repair stations for Conklin/Marne have been received by Greg at Muskegon State Park and the concrete pad was installed today (8/4). This funds/work arrangement is part of the matching grant our group was awarded. Tim will install the stations.
- ii. Discussion regarding new "TRAIL CREW" t-shirts for board members to wear during volunteer events on the trail. Cari worked with Amy to update the new designs and proposed to the board that we use a Cafe Press-style service called Printful to create these shirts. Cari is also in touch with Ink Link in Ravenna about screenprinting these shirts locally; initial quote is \$300-350. Motion made & seconded to approve moving forward with this project; unanimously approved.
- iii. Review/update FOTMT Bylaws. Paul Boucon made suggestions to Section 802 regarding volunteers and will have more suggestions at our next meeting, as there is more to be updated.

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

- i. Ed Holovka Memorial, to be located at the Muskegon/Broadway trail head. This topic was discussed previously, and it was decided to wait for a larger install to be incorporated into the trail resurfacing project **Jill Sell of DNR was in attendance and suggested we add the covered shelter with the bike station there.**
- ii. Work on "etiquette/rules" signs for the trail head kiosks. Tim to update first draft to simplify and condense. Tim will get approval from DNR and Ottawa County Parks before finalization.

12. Remaining Friends board meeting date for 2022: **10/6** (Thursday at 7PM in Ravenna)  
Projected Friends meeting dates for 2023: 4/6, 6/1, 8/3 and 10/5 (all Thursdays at 7PM in Ravenna)

13. Miscellaneous/Other News

- a. Diana: We traditionally have a dinner each fall for our Friends board at Whitlow's, Diana will be in touch via email with potential dates in October.  
**NOTE: This date is Thursday, October 13 @ 6:30pm**
- b. Guests Melissa & Maryde from the Museum discussed potential new restrooms; flush toilets vs. pay toilets (locked? \$1 card reader?) and how the original depot plan included restrooms. An exterior entrance requested for public with painted concrete and no frills, and money should be in escrow to maintain. Jill Sell will look into procedures for this.
- c. Guest Jill Sell from the DNR presented about the \$38.5 million from MDOT awarded for non-motorized trail spending to be used beginning 2024 and spent by 2026. Timeline for the Musketawa resurfacing/update is yet unknown, but Jill said it will also include repairs/resurfacing up to 13 bridges on the trail.

14. **Motion to Adjourn** at 8:09pm, seconded and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cari Draft, Secretary 8/4/22