



Friends of the Musketawa Trail Board Meeting

Thursday, October 3, 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, Diana Holovka, Oscar Reed, George Czinder and Cari Draft
Absent: Gary De Kock and James Smith
Guests: Greg Sherburn and Kate Alvarez

1. **Meeting called to order 7:04pm** : Tim Nink, president
2. **Secretary report - Cari Draft** : Meeting minutes from August 1 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 suggestion to add drinking fountains on trail.
 - b. Mail correspondence: Diana reported no notable mail.
5. **Trail Manager Report from Muskegon County/Greg Sherburn**: Standard maintenance; fall brush hogging services are planned along with continued rodent hole maintenance. Noted that most deck board in Muskegon County require repair. Budget issues mentioned regarding trail resurfacing: we have \$13.5 million; we need \$29 million. This means trail resurfacing will start on the Ottawa County end of the trail as it's in the worst shape. The 5-year EGLE permit has been secured, and no timeline is set for reconstruction yet.
Trail Manager Report from Kate Alvarez/Ottawa County: many equipment issues this past season; more sinkholes repaired; the specific (large) crack/hole near Taft has been repaired with crushed limestone.
6. **Website** : Tim added the West Michigan Trails donation option to our website.
7. **Current Expenditures/Reimbursement**: None noted.
8. **Brochure/trail map**: Tim has more packs of our trail brochures if anyone sees a need anywhere!

9. PROJECT LIST

a.) Completed 2024:

- i. The Broadway Trailhead Cleanup event coincided with Earth Month on the morning of Saturday, April 13 from 8am to 9:30am. We plan to make this an annual event.
- ii. Tim & Sheri repainted the metal arts bike rack unit in Marne. (Bike racks in Ravenna and Muskegon were repainted in 2023.) Tim noted this typically last 3-4 years.
- iii. Gary and Linda DeKock continued three "Open House Days" for the caboose & depot in Ravenna. The June 1 event garnered \$100 in donations and many compliments!

b.) Current/existing 2024/2025 and beyond:

- 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. **Broadway Trailhead (Muskegon) Spring CleanUp** is scheduled for Saturday, April 19 at 8:00am, please save the date! This usually takes between one and two hours; all help is appreciated. Cari created a save-the-date JPG, attached.
- iii. Cari presented her "**Musketawa Farewell Cruise**" event PLAN at the August meeting. More discussion of promoting it as a family-style slow-roll type event; most likely will be two separate events - Ottawa County first, then Muskegon County. Plan will remain on "pause" until we know firm construction dates. *Example: if construction will be in Fall 2025, let's host this Farewell event at the end of Summer 2025.*

c.) Longer term:

- i. **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.
 - ii. **Last bike repair station** to go along with Ed Holovka Memorial in Muskegon (purchased)
10. Paul completed his analysis and provided a formal response to the "**Corporate Transparency Act**". Our group will not be affected by this in any way and no action is required by our group.
 11. Oscar is waiting for Road Commission permission regarding the Red Barn easement and the solar farm being located at the property.
 12. Cari attended the Trail Summit the morning of 10/3 and she learned about how the TAP grant process works, but had nothing new to report.
 13. Friends board meeting dates for 2025: **4/3, 6/5, 8/7 and 10/2** (Thursdays at 7PM in Ravenna)
 14. **Motion to Adjourn** at 7:44pm, seconded and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Cari Draft, Secretary 10/4/24

