



Friends of the Musketawa Trail Board Meeting

Thursday, June 6, 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 De Kock, Oscar Reed, Diana Holovka, Greg Sherburn, Linda De Kock and Cari Draft
Absent: George Czinder and James Smith

1. **Meeting called to order 7:01pm** : Tim Nink, president
2. **Secretary report - Cari Draft** : Meeting minutes from April 4 reviewed; Mark found typo (*Jill Sells s/b Jill Sell*). Motion and second to approve with correction. Unanimously approved.
3. **Treasurer report - Diana Holovka** : Diana detailed newsletter costs and noted that with incoming donations, the newsletter pays for itself. No questions; Motion & second to approve treasurer's report. Unanimously approved. Motion also made, second, and unanimously approved to accept Diana's reimbursement of postage, labels, etc.
4. **Correspondence**
 - a. Emails: Tim noted none; Diana read a few thank you emails.
 - b. Mail correspondence: Diana received several thank yous with donations.
5. **Trail Manager Report from Muskegon County/Greg Sherburn**: Steve is back on maintenance for the spring & summer season, cutting weeds back and filling holes, etc. Greg also noted there have been ORV issues on the Muskegon end of the trail that have been passed along to authorities.
Report from **Kate Alvarez/Ottawa County** via email to Tim: more of the same, excited for summer.
6. **Website** : Tim updated the footer of our website "*Copyright ©2017-2022 Friends of the Musketawa Trail. All rights reserved.*" to be **2024** instead of 2022.
7. **Current Expenditures**: Requests for reimbursement from Tim, materials totaling \$46.19 (soil, flowers and bags for Broadway trailhead cleanup + paint brushes). Motion & second to approve. Unanimously approved
8. **Brochure/trail map**: Tim has more packs of our trail brochures if anyone sees a need anywhere!
9. **PROJECT LIST - 2024 completed/current/future**
 - 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.
 - b.) **Current/existing 2024 and beyond**:
 - i. Gary and Linda are continuing "Open House Days" for the caboos & depot in Ravenna. Sat. June 1 garnered \$100 in donations and many compliments! A last-minute

(continued)

July date could potentially happen; Gary is in touch with the Ravenna Independent for announcements. Sat. August 3 will be the next one, from 10am to 2pm again. Gary will set up the tent and bring water along with the keys to unlock the depot, and Tim and Paul have volunteered to help.

c.) Future/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. **See item #12 below for a pledge announcement from Gary & Linda De Kock!**
 - 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. Oscar explained access details and will continue to keep us posted on progress.
 - iv. Other discussion: Cari suggested (and volunteered to spearhead) hosting a "Musketawa Farewell Cruise" event leading up to the reconstruction. Discussion among the board; general consensus is good idea, promoting it as a family-style slow-roll type event, and the sections (or all!) of the trail are going to be closed for quite awhile. Cari will create a plan to present at our August meeting, and we can keep it all 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.*
10. Fall 2023/Winter 2024 issue of Friends Newsletter is completed and went out a few weeks ago. Kudos to Tim & Diana for getting this done.
 11. Remaining Friends board meeting dates for 2024: **8/1 & 10/3** (all Thursdays at 7PM in Ravenna)
 12. During discussion regarding the Ed Holovka Memorial, Gary & Linda De Kock announced their support of the project by officially pledging up to \$10,000 as needed. The De Kocks feel strongly about honoring Ed's dedication to the Musketawa Trail over the years with the memorial. **Much appreciation to Gary & Linda De Kock!**
 13. Mark inquired about who handles our trail mowing & passed along Keith Litchfield's info.
 14. Gary suggested establishing solid criteria for our method of "patching" holes and other hazards on the trail, specifically identifying the large (recurring) hole down the middle between GR and Ravenna. He asks that we think about a solution that may be better than our current "patch" method; Greg will also ask about solutions.
 15. Diana brought a packet of info regarding the "**Corporate Transparency Act**" and explained it needs to be filed by December; Paul took the packet and will investigate whether this Act applies to our non-profit group, and will let us know his findings at the August meeting.
 16. **Motion to Adjourn** at 7:52pm, seconded and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Cari Draft, Secretary 6/6/24