



FRIENDS OF THE FRED MEIJER CLINTON-IONIA-SHIAWASSEE TRAIL  
P.O. BOX 274  
ST. JOHNS, MI 48879

## **Friends of the Fred Meijer CIS Trail Monthly Meeting**

### **Wednesday, April 10, 2019**

### **6:00 pm, Clinton County Court House**

### **St. Johns, Michigan**

### *Minutes*

1. **Meeting Called to Order** – Chairperson Church called meeting to order at 6:06 pm
2. **Roll Call**
  - a) **Present:** Janice Gustafson, Barry Culham (Trail Manager), Rick Church, Allen Martin, Dave Weber, Ardelle Rodgers, Doug Hyland, Joel Wickham
  - b) **Absent:** Pam Weisenburger
  - c) **Guests:** Mary Perrien, Ovid City Council, Parks & Recreation Committee
3. **Approve the Minutes** – **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2019 meeting. Gustafson/Weber M/S/P
4. **Public Comment** - Mary Perrien stated they would like to make the trail a more pleasant experience for trail users passing through the City of Ovid, ie, providing seating, etc. They are trying to promote the trail a little more, like some of the other towns along the trail, but meet with resistance because of lack of money. Church offered help from the board with finding different money avenues. Wickham explained how the Dalmac grant works, but there are other grants also available (ie, DNR grants, Patronicity, etc.)
5. **Approve the Agenda** – Add to new business 10d - Meeting Room Access. **MOTION** to approve the agenda as amended. Martin/Gustafson M/S/P
6. **Update from the Mid-West Michigan Trail Authority** – Culham stated there was nothing new to report since our Annual Meeting last month.
7. **Financial Report** – Treasurer Gustafson reported that we received \$10,000 from the Trail Authority Grant in March. We also received \$3,019 in dues and donations. Expenses for February and March totaled \$4,390 (including \$3,400 for mowing and brush back and \$450 for quarterly payment to Culham). Ending funds balance as of March 31, 2019 is \$30,146.97; ending operating funds balance is \$16,405.24. Culham stated we will be seal coating in June in Fowler, **Pewamo and Muir** which will run approximately \$23,000. **MOTION** to accept report as presented. Rodgers/Wickham M/S/P
8. **Trail Maintenance** - 1) Spring Clean Up Day - Culham stated he hasn't gotten any feedback yet on volunteers for the clean up day scheduled for April 27. He will assign clean up areas as volunteers contact him. Clean up will consist of cleaning the pads at the street and road ends, cleaning the cement platforms under the benches and trash pick up. Trash pick up should be minimal. Church and Flynn already had plans for that day, but will take responsibility for Smith Road (on the east end) to East Street in Ovid. Martin and Wickham will be responsible for Scott Road to Ovid. Simon will do Fowler to St. Johns. Weber will do clean up from Pewamo to Muir. **Take out -Hyland will do Muir to Ionia. (THERE IS NO PADS BEYOND MUIR)** Volunteers from Fowler are planning their own clean up of the paved portion in that town. Simon will post on Facebook; Culham will send out an email blast. 2) In Ovid, MMPA truckers are driving their trucks over the trail again, so that needs to be cleaned up. Culham stated that it may help to put in cement bumpers to keep trucks off, but we may want to contact them first to ask if they can ask

their drivers to stop crossing over the trail. 3) Culham noted that we have a lot of wood from fallen trees and branches. He has given permission to different people to pick up.

**9. Old Business**

- a) *Wayfaring Signs/MSU Project (including 1/2 mile marker) - Update* - No new information. Hyland stated that someone wants to plant sunflowers at the split rails in Muir. Board has no objections. As for the 1/2 mile markers - Culham says we may have to pay for them, or apply for Dalmac grant money. We may need to dig 4 foot post holes for these markers.
- b) *Bridge Bollards - Update* - No update - Culham has not heard back from the DNR.
- c) *Centralized Trail Clearinghouse for Friends' Group (website page to document trail surface improvement efforts) - Update* - Culham will add information to our website.
- d) *Trail Volunteer Appreciation Day* - We would like to hold this in Pewamo, but Pewamo has their annual Block Party on the date we have chosen. Discussed tagging onto Pewamo's Block Party with a bike ride, booth, etc.
- e) *Spring Clean Up* - See Item 8 above.

**10. New Business**

- a) *Recap of 2019 Annual Meeting* - Noted that it went well. Consider scheduling a speaker for next year, and holding it at AgroLiquid again.
- b) *Election of Officers* - Church stated he cannot continue to chair because of a new job.  
*Chair* - Ardelle Rodgers  
*Vice Chair* - Rick Church  
*Treasurer* - Janice Gustafson  
*Secretary* - Kathy Simon  
**MOTION** to accept slate of 2019 officers. Simon/Hyland M/S/P
- c) *Addition of Authorized Signers to Huntington Bank Account* - Following agreed to be signers on Friends Group bank account - Simon, Gustafson, Church
- d) *Meeting Room Access* - Culham stated that access is not a problem because there is a regularly scheduled planning commission meeting on the 2nd Wednesdays of each month. Also discussed meeting schedule for 2019/2020

**11. Next Meeting Date/Location** – May 8, 2019 at 6 pm

**12. Adjournment** – **MOTION** to adjourn at 7:30 pm. Simon/Weber M/S/P

*Minutes taken by Kathy Simon*