



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

Friends of the Fred Meijer CIS Trail Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, January 10, 2018
6:00 pm, Clinton County Court House
St. Johns, Michigan

Minutes

1. **Meeting Called to Order** – Vice Chairperson Salemi called meeting to order at 6:00 pm. (Chairperson Church was unable to be present until later in the meeting)
2. **Roll Call**
 - a. *Present*: John Salemi, Janice Gustafson, Dave Weber, Doug Hyland, Barry Culham (Trail Manager), Rick Church, Kathy Simon
 - b. *Absent*: Ardelle Rodgers, Pam Weisenburger, Marshall Baker, Terry McLeod (Ex-Officio)
 - c. *Guests*: Erwin Trumble, Jr.
3. **Approve the Minutes** – **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2017 meeting. Gustafson/Weber M/S/P (NOTE: December 2017 meeting was cancelled)
4. **Public Comment** - None.
5. **Approve the Agenda** – Salemi requested to add item 9i - Consider Resolution to Amend Bylaws to provide for electronic voting. Culham requested to remove item 9d - 2018 Maintenance Budget and include discussion as part of item 7 - Financial Report. **MOTION** to approve the amended agenda. Gustafson/Hyland M/S/P
6. **Update from the Mid-West Michigan Trail Authority** – Culham stated that they are requesting we provide a master plan. The next meeting date for the MWMTA is January 25, 2018.
7. **Financial Report** – Treasurer Gustafson reported that we received \$1,779.00 in deposits in December (insurance settlement for the vandalized bench). There were no disbursements. There is a balance of \$357.78 in the Michigan Trail Authority Grant Fund. The ending Operating Balance as of December 31, 2017 was \$14,635.26. **MOTION** to approve the Financial Report. Weber/Hyland M/S/P Culham reported that the maintenance budget was approved at \$42,000. Recommended we apply now for \$20,000 disbursement.
8. **Trail Maintenance** - Culham reported that the MWMTA is paying for the culverts. The Sherman Road culvert has been fixed. The DNR and DEQ are in discussions regarding the Ovid culvert. Salemi asked about whether we could do grooming. Culham stated that we don't have grooming equipment, but he is open to suggestions. Culham stated he will order 5 sign posts and 4 non motorized signs for Pewamo & Muir and a stop sign for St. Johns. He stated that we have budgeted \$7,500 for mowing for 2018. Discussion about contracting with Keith Litchfield for the coming season, how many mowings we need, etc. Board consensus that we will entrust Culham, as our trail manager, to make decisions on mowing. He also stated that we paid for the asphalt in Fowler. Plans for a horse trail are currently in limbo. Per prior discussions about adding lime from local city water treatment systems to treat our trail - we were advised that it will not work on our trail (apparently it needs clay). He has pink florescent paint for board members to paint trees that need to come down as they are using the trail (please paint a round circle). Also, he noted that we included \$20,000 for sealing for preventative maintenance in our 2018 Budget. Fowler was fixed in 2017. Pewamo will probably need sealing soon.

9. *Old Business*

- a) *Fund Raising* - Tabled.
- b) *Wayfaring Signs/MSU Student Project* - Hyland stated that the second group has information for signs (including GPS coordinates for mile markers). The money has been earmarked and we are currently waiting for approval from the State of Michigan to release funds.
- c) *Chain of Command Flow Chart* - Tabled.
- d) *2018 Maintenance Budget* - This item moved to Item 7.
- e) *Review of Liability Insurance* - Salemi reported that Lappan stated we should consider consolidating with the other three friends groups for break on premium. He will continue talking with Lappan.
- f) *Set up of Volunteer Dates* - Tabled.
- g) *2018 Annual Meeting (date, location, speaker, agenda)* - **MOTION** to move annual meeting from March 14 to April 11, 2018. Church/Gustafson M/S/P Possible locations - Fowler Village Hall, Owosso Township Hall. Simon will check on availability of Fowler Village Hall. Salemi will contact Ben Frederick as a possible speaker. Simon will prepare and send article to local newspapers about the annual meeting at the proper time. We will also announce on Facebook and our website.
- h) *2018 Meeting Schedule* - Board consensus that all 2018 meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of the month at 6 pm at the Clinton County Courthouse in St. Johns (with the exception of the February meeting which was moved from February 14 to February 7). Culham will add meeting schedule to our website.
- i) *Consider Resolution to Amend Bylaws to provide for electronic voting* - **MOTION** to adopt resolution to Amend By-Laws to Allow for Electronic/Remote Voting. Church/Gustafson M/S/P Chairperson will send e-mail to each board member. Board member will respond ("reply all") with their name and their vote.

10. *New Business*

- a) *2018 Winter Newsletter* - Board consensus that we will publish our annual newsletter, Possible articles include a DNR Update, an MTGA update, Trail Maintenance, the St. Johns trailhead improvements and the grand opening of the Fowler trailhead. Culham and Simon will coordinate and send proposed articles to board members prior to formatting. Newsletter will include 2018 voting ballot and membership renewal forms.
- b) *Ad Hoc Nominating Committee* - Nominating committee to include Church and Salemi. Board members up for renewal are Hyland (Ionia County), Simon (Clinton County) and Rodgers (Shiawassee County). Hyland and Simon indicated their interest in serving another term (Rodgers not present). Simon will prepare and send article to newspapers and announcements will be posted to our Facebook page and website.
- c) *Board Vacancy* - **MOTION** to accept resignation of Marshall Baker. Church/Hyland M/S/P
- d) *Master Plan* - Salemi will draft a Letter of Concern and Recommendations for Church's signature using information included in the draft Master Plan. He will e-mail draft to board members for consideration.

11. *Next Meeting Date/Location* – Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 7, 2018 (changed from February 14) at 6 pm at the Clinton County Courthouse in St. Johns.

12. *Adjournment* – **MOTION** to adjourn at 7:38 pm. Hyland/Gustafson M/S/P

Minutes taken by Kathy Simon