

FRIENDS of MILITARY RIDGE TRAIL

Meeting Date: November 14, 2016

Meeting Location: Train Depot, Friends Shelter, Blue Mounds State Park

Friends Attending: Jerry Wilson, President; Bill Kalscheur, Treasurer; Cletus Schwoerer, Vice President; Sarah Castello, Secretary; Jane Schwoerer; Lydia Haynes; Palmer Haynes; Keith Sincox, Past President; Kevin Swenson, DNR Trail Manager; Mary Kay Baum; Tom Pedretti; Dave Pearson; Brad Bates, DNR Ranger

Minutes: Bill motioned and Cletus seconded to accept the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports: We have \$17,160 in the bank. More money will be coming in from next month's trail passes. We received the last check for the Dodgeville kiosk. The Fidelity statement shows a gain of \$138 for the year from this investment. Bill motioned and Palmer seconded to accept the financial report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda: Dave motioned and Palmer seconded to accept the agenda as presented by Jerry.

Work day: Verona workday 9/12/16 was a success. It was attended by Cletus, Jerry, Bill and Jane. The crew worked on 4 bridges west from the Verona park and ride, cut brush, and sprayed.

DNR Trail Report:

Mowing: DNR did brush mowing near Dodgeville and Highway Z and reshaped the trail to its original path, took out a lot of box elders, and transplanted a few oaks. Kevin suggested that we plant trees near Dodgeville for our annual tree planting project. We will plant in the area they cleared recently.

Trees: DNR sent our an order request for trees. The FMRT decided to split the cost with the DNR for 60 trees (oaks and maples). Kevin will send Jerry information on the costs of the trees. Kevin said we will tube them to keep rabbit and deer from browsing. We also discussed how to and who would water them if necessary. The trees usually come the week before Arbor Day and Kevin will let us know a week before they come in.

Painting the Bridge in Mt Horeb: The DNR got the okay to paint the bridge in Mt Horeb. First they need to remove the previous paint. The project will start next spring and will mean we have to reroute the trail as the bridge may be closed for as much two months.

Barneveld kiosk : The stewardship papers have been received and accepted.

Property Owner issues: Landowners want a willow tree taken down near 4th street. There continue to be problems with landowners/building owners whose properties abut the trail.

DOT: The DOT Ridgeway and Verona PB projects are still moving forward

There was a motion by Bill and seconded by Dave to skip the December meeting. It passed unanimously.

Jerry motioned and Dave seconded to end the meeting.

The next meeting is January 9, 2017 at the Blue Mounds State Park .

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Castello, Secretary