

## **Minutes - FRIENDS of MILITARY RIDGE TRAIL**

Meeting Date: July 8, 2019

Meeting Location: Ridgeway Train Depot, Ridgeway, WI

Friends attending: Jerry Wilson, President; Bill Kalscheur, Treasurer; Lydia Haynes; Palmer Haynes; Bruce Pauli; Kevin Swenson, DNR; Brad Bates, DNR; Mary Kay Baum; Theresa Berrie; Krista Durst; Linda McMean; Rodney Albers

The meeting started at 6:12.

### **Minutes**

Bill motioned and Theresa seconded to accept the June 2019 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Financial Reports**

The financial report showed an end of June balance of \$23,558.60 in the FMRT checking account. Two payments were made this month to the DNR. We have sold lots of trail passes this year. Sarah motioned that we accept the financial report. The motion was seconded by Jerry, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Additions to this meetings agenda**

None

**The DNR Friends agreement** was updated and sent to the group. It may require that we update our insurance policy to meet the conditions of the new agreement. The DNR should be listed as a certificate holder. Kevin will send boiler plate language to Bill who will then talk to our insurance agent. Kevin will send Jerry a new signature page. Both Jerry and Sarah need to sign this.

### **DNR Topics**

The DNR has decided to locate the Riley bench in front of the depot just past the kiosk. The family is in agreement with this.

Location of the new kiosk at the east end of the trail has been decided. Kevin proposes that we start this job in the fall or spring. The contractor wants a clean drawing to do the bid and start the job. We need to figure out how the project will be billed. The price of the concrete may go up due to the cost of the ADA off and on access.

The DNR will be meeting with Duluth again about the realignment of the trail and other issues. Interns from Duluth will be working on projects along the trail.

Brad put the Schiedigger kiosk back up, it is rebuilt, stained and landscaped.

The kiosk southwest of Blue Mounds Park along the trail is being worked on by the DNR (it has been stained, will have a new plaque, etc).

Due to the Verona High School Project the trail will be closed sometime this summer to put the overpasses in.

The DNR has a trail crew out working (first time they have had more than one person working in a long time)

The DNR got funding for bridge repair but the DNR lost their engineer so the project is on pause.

Brad is working on a fencing agreement near Ridgeway.

Starting in August there are a lot of events on the trail.

Starting this week the DNR is sending out letters to folks in Blue Mounds about encroachment on the trail. Kevin will work with landowners who are unsure about the location of their property line.

The Glacial Drumlin trail has been nominated for the Rail/Trail Hall of Fame. Everyone vote for them. Jerry will email the ballot out to everyone.

There was a question about whether Palmer's plan for the Riley observation platform steps met ADA requirements.

The Horribly Hilly bike event went smoothly. There was no water in the park and the village brought in water. Bill will go to the debriefing to talk about some of the issues with food and cleanliness.

**Event at the Depot** - Krista Durst's daughter would like to get married at the depot. The reception would be somewhere else. The wedding is October 10, 2020. A tent may be needed in case of bad weather. Issues include parking, zoning, insurance, cleaning, and who owns the adjacent property they may need to use. Bill will look into insurance issues and we will discuss this at the next meeting. Krista will talk to the village about the wedding. Krista's phone number is 608 341-8082 .

We got a plaque from the State of WI Natural Resources Board for a cash donation we made.

Jerry distributed some free issues of the Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine.

The next meeting is 6:00 pm, Monday, August 12, 2019 at the Ridgeway Depot.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Castello, Secretary