

Minutes - FRIENDS of MILITARY RIDGE TRAIL

Meeting Date: October 14, 2019

Meeting Location: Blue Mounds State Park Friends Shelter, Blue Mounds State Park, Blue Mounds, WI

Friends attending: Lydia Haynes; Dave Pearson, Vice President; Bill Kalscheur, Treasurer; Linda McMeen; Palmer Haynes; Tom Pedretti; Kevin Swenson, DNR; Brad Bates, DNR

Minutes

Bill motioned and Lydia seconded to accept the September 2019 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports

The financial report showed an end of September balance of \$26,226.19 in the FMRT checking account. We paid for Lydia's QuikBooks software and Jerry's requested general maintenance items this month. The Fidelity account is down a bit. The balance is \$20,802.83 so far for the year. Linda motioned to accept the report as presented, Bill seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

Additions to this meeting's agenda

None

DNR Topics

The Verona High School project is moving forward. Brad is working with them on the overpass on WildCat Way and it is expected to be installed in November.

The paperwork has all been sent to Duluth and asked that the reworking of the trail (ingresses and egresses to the building removed and realigning the trail to its original path) be done by December 15 this year if possible. They may need to defer it until spring.

Brad and Kevin met with a bridge engineer in Green Bay and three bridge projects have been approved for reworking to the tune of \$140,000, including the Fitchrona Road bridge. The plan is to go from a wood decking to cement decking.

The Fitchburg trail head that the DNR is partnering with the FMRT on for cement slab, kiosk, and a bike stand, still needs a contractors bid. The project is underway and we hope to be done with this by the end of the year.

The Emerald ash bore tree removal has been restarted. There are three trees yet to remove.

Brad met with Ron Betlack's widow and they have decided to locate the bench between Highway P and Sletto Road.

The DNR brought about 100 bike etiquette brochures to put in kiosks. We discussed again passing these out with the purchase of trail passes.

Other Topics

Jerry requested that Bill motion that we put \$500 into the Betlack bench project. Palmer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

We would like to request a stewardship grant for 2020 funding to go towards the Ridgeway kiosk. Bill estimated the total project price to be about \$6000 (FMRT would pay \$6000 upfront and be reimbursed for \$3000). Bill motioned that we request the stewardship grant, to be applied towards this project. Kevin did not know if the Stewardship funding would be continued in the following years. Bill assured the group that we have money from our Fidelity Investment Fund for other projects. Kevin pointed out that Dane County has grants which could be used at the Verona Park-n-Ride. The final motion from Bill is: the FMRT put \$6000 towards a new kiosk in Ridgeway, 50% of which would be reimbursed from the Stewardship grant. Lydia seconded the motion. The new kiosk construction is contingent on the FMRT getting the stewardship grant. The motion passed unanimously. Bill put forward a resolution giving President Wilson the authority to sign and submit the DNR stewardship grant. Palmer seconded the resolution and the resolution passed unanimously.

Jerry will try again to contact the insurance agent about the insurance changes requested by the DNR.

ATC - Chuck Tenyson gave Dave a flier that notifies people of a meeting October 15 in Dodgeville concerning an appeal to the PSC board.

The next meeting is 6:00 pm, Monday, November 11, 2019 at the Blue Mound State Park Friends Shelter. A potluck, starting at 5:00 will proceed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Castello, Secretary