

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

Meeting Date: June 8, 2020

Meeting Location: Zoom Meeting

Friends attending: Jerry Wilson, President; Sarah Castello, Secretary; Lydia Haynes; Palmer Haynes; Kevin Swenson, DNR; Brad Bates, DNR; Tom Pedretti

### **Minutes**

Lydia motioned and Tom seconded to accept the May 2020 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Financial Reports**

The financial report showed an end of May balance of \$18,427.83 in the FMRT checking account. Checks were written for kiosks, insurance, and water for the depot. Sarah motioned that we accept the financial report, Tom seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Additions to this meeting's agenda**

None

### **DNR Topics**

Brad finished the Fitchburg kiosk. Bill put Friends information in it. Work still needs to be done on landscaping, maybe evergreens, to separate it from the General Beverage area. Per Brad it is well used, especially the bicycle tire pump.

Verona High School project is still on going.

Mt Horeb Duluth project is on-going.

Master plan project is still going on.

There is a push to make the Badger and Sugar River Trails accessible to ATVs. An online petition to keep them off the trail is at : <https://www.change.org/p/dnr-protect-the-sugar-river-trail-and-badger-state> A petition is also circulating to allow ATVs on these trails.

Dane County has started installing crossing lights at the intersection of PD and the trail and hopefully this will be done in the next few weeks

Shoulders of the trail were mowed this month.

The area around the Ridgeway kiosk is not seeded yet. FMRT has money allocated for this project . There is a map in the depot (a new metal one) which can go in the kiosk but DNR has a larger metal one we can use. Brad talked about standardizing what we put in the kiosks so they all have the same basic information.

### **Friends Business**

Jerry got an email saying that we needed to close out the signage grant this month. He is unsure what to do and Brad will help him with that. He thinks maybe we still have money coming from this.

Bill paid for the Fitchburg kiosk in full and the DNR will reimburse the Friends for their share of the cost of the kiosk.

Last Sunday's open house at the depot had 11 people including Jerry and Dave. Most had masks (we require them). Lydia gave us a sign to put up saying masks are required and available for those without them at the depot, and that you can buy trail passes at the depot. Dave left 6 masks at the depot to be used next time. Jerry asked that people send him emails if they want to volunteer as he needs volunteers for the coming depot open houses.

Kevin sent Bill an email saying we can now put a port-a-potty in the Riley parking area. Due to the pandemic the port-a-potty needs a sign saying that it is not cleaned daily.

Kevin said volunteers to WI parks not authorized to participate in projects on state park properties due to covid19 restrictions.

Sarah and Lydia will work on modifying the membership form to say that New Members should check our website for information on meetings (it will no longer say that they will be sent email notifications of coming meetings). We will run the changes by Bill and share what we have at the next meeting.

A friend of Dave's suggested making the donation box at the depot more visible and seed it with money.

Sarah motioned to Zoom the next meeting, Dave seconded it, it was passed.

The next meeting is 6:00 pm, Monday, July 13, 2020 via zoom. Sarah will send out the new ID and password.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Castello, Secretary