

Minutes - FRIENDS of MILITARY RIDGE TRAIL

Meeting Date: September 14, 2020

Meeting Location: Zoom Meeting

Friends attending: Jerry Wilson, President; Sarah Castello, Secretary; Bill Kalscheur, Treasurer; Tom Pedretti; Brad Bates, DNR

Minutes

Bill motioned and Tom seconded to accept the August 2020 meeting minutes after a correction to the spelling of the name "Betlach". The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports

The financial report showed an end of August balance of \$32,666.85 in the Farmers Savings Bank account. Bill said his balance was \$25,681.85 at the end of August due to 2 outstanding checks that had since cleared. Trail passes will be wrapped up next month. Sarah moved to approve the financial report, Jerry seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

Additions to this meetings agenda

None

DNR Topics

The Parks have started opening up park windows, kiosks, etc.

Verona Area - The DNR received 7 bids on redecking the Fitchrona bridge. The bids vary from from \$16,000- \$110,00. The redecking will be timber replacement not cement (the bridge does not have a high load rating). Currently, to replace deck boards, DNR staff must access screws underneath the bridge. This causes a problem due to the height of the bridge and the road underneath. Part of the project is to put a wooden frame over the existing frame so in the future DNR can replace boards from the top.

From Nine Mound Road to Paulson Road DNR did a lot of bridge repair, mostly deck board replacement and regravelling approaches.

The Verona High School culverts now have full railings and aprons on the culverts.

The Kleevenville Betlach bridge is now installed, mulched, and stumps around it have been cut.

There is a sink hole that needs to be repaired by the bridge just west of Town Hall Road,

DNR staff spent time overlaying gravel on bad areas (need layers of gravel on top of the existing bed) west of Pikes Peak Road and almost to the High Point Restaurant.

Eagle Scouts worked on the shelter west of Town Hall Road, spread gravel, cleared brush around shelter and rock outcropping in back of it, roofed, replaced timbers, etc. Brad sent pictures. FMRT needs to know if we owe money to the eagle scout.

Bill said that bolts near Verona kiosk could be dangerous. Brad will check on this.

Ridgeway Train Depot Open House August 2

Jerry reported 21 people at the open house. Ridgeway's Farmer's market ran concurrently but this year there was no Ridgeway Days. Attendees included Brad Bates and the new Ridgeway constable. If anyone wants to volunteer for future open houses contact Jerry. Carol Murphy has one more library children's reading scheduled there in September. Jerry will work on closing up the shelter.

Depot Gutters

Rodney said there were lots of problems with the gutter bids. Most did not have the kind of gutters we need to put the building on the historic register. One alternative may be to patch the gutters but there are lots of holes. Rodney is still working on getting bids and will be contacting "Seamless Gutters" to see if they can special order the gutters we need and install them. Brad found "Guttersmiths" out of Sun Prairie. Their website says they can get the half round gutters that we need. Jerry will mention this to Rodney.

Staining Kiosks

Rodney, his wife and the Clintons stained the Mt. Horeb kiosk. Riley and Blue Mounds kiosks are the next to be stained.

Memorial to Palmer

We want to do something to honor Palmer. We will wait and talk with Lydia in February.

October Meeting

The next meeting, Monday, October 12, 2020, will start at 5:30 pm. This will be a zoom meeting. Sarah will send out the new ID and password.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Castello, Secretary