

Meeting Minutes July 25, 2023 – Friends of the Clinton River Trail, Auburn Hills Community Center.

Present: John Hensler, Richard Harrison, Fred Phillips, Corey Rowe, Tom Barnes, John Zalewski, Josh Eichenhorn

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Josh.

Meeting Minutes from June 27, 2023 – accepted (John H, Richard).

Visitor Comments – none

Treasurer's Report – John Z reported the status of the financials and all is in good order. Report accepted.

Projects

Document Retention – discussion occurred. There is general agreement to create a plan/policy, keep it simple, and retain minimal information. Meeting minutes will be kept on the website and other documents will be stored on Google Docs or Dropbox (Josh to investigate). Graphics, pictures, financial details, and other documents will be retained where meaningful and appropriate. Mark and Claudia (previous FCRT treasurer and secretary) have many documents that will likely be incorporated into the records. Josh and Tom will move forward with the plan.

20th Anniversary Celebration of the Clinton River Trail – discussion occurred. Fred noted that cities had not yet voiced interest in the celebration and John H thought a speaker/event would be important. Fred suggested Todd Scott would be a good speaker, he also thought a running slide show would be good background for an event. Fred had created a list of ideas and they were discussed during the meeting. The Board agreed to pursue a celebration. Josh will send a Zoom meeting request to the Board to determine next steps (John H, Richard likely to lead event).

Pontiac Maintenance Project – Kristen indicated in an email that the final report had been sent to the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan and is under review.

DIA Trail Art – plan is to pursue for 2024, details are not finalized (Richard and Fred pursuing).

Mid-block Crossing at Adams Road – no update

Sylvan Lake Improvements / OLRC #4 – no update, trail is in good shape at this time

Galloway Lake Park – no update

Pike Street Clinton River Trail Update – Richard indicated planning meetings were occurring, detailed plans forthcoming

South Blvd Crosswalk – Richard reported that the project was nearing completion and it appears to be in good shape

Media Outreach

- Website and Social Media – Josh indicated updates are occurring and posts to social media will be occurring in the upcoming months and noted that he is seeking data/information for posts

- City Council presentations – Josh is working on the presentation and will focus on keeping each city involved and active with the trail
- E-newsletter – the newsletter was sent to the FCRT distribution list electronically – no feedback has been received. Josh will be using this material to update social media posts. The Board also discussed the possibility of sending a physical newsletter to the same distribution in the future perhaps with a focus on fundraising.

Other Business / Updates

- Michigander Jul 22-28, 2023 (Stony Creek Metropark 7/26) – John H reported that 40 riders are participating and seem to be enjoying themselves
- Trail Beacons: HAWK and RRFB – Fred reported Auburn Hills had installed a RRFB at Squirrel Road and Rochester is planning several RRFBs in the near future. Josh will put a link on social media and the website to explain how users operate these devices most effectively.

New Business:

- Richard noted that all the old Michigan Rails to Trails magazines have been distributed to business

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm (Josh, Richard).

Submitted by Tom Barnes