

Meeting Minutes September 26, 2023 – Friends of the Clinton River Trail, Auburn Hills Community Center.

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

Meeting called to order at 6:57 p.m. by Melinda.

Meeting Minutes from August 29, 2023 – accepted (Josh, John Z).

Visitor Comments – none

Treasurer's Report – John Z reported the status of the financials. It was agreed to re-create a directory of officers, board members, key contacts at municipalities, and others. Report accepted.

Projects / Initiatives

Document Retention – Josh led the discussion - key documents have been added to the Google Drive account and older meeting minutes are held a thumb drive. Some modifications will be made in the future including creating a specific FCRT Google Drive account that will contain all relevant documents. It was noted that documents in-hand make up a complete history of the FCRT. Thanks to Josh for working so hard to get this organized and complete. Fred is reviewing all physical documents and a motion was made that Josh/Fred decide which key documents will be scanned and saved on the Google Drive (Josh, John Z – motion passed).

20th Anniversary Celebration of the Clinton River Trail – Josh reported that a speaker has been secured for the event (past-history) and John H will work to secure a future-plans speaker, a 5-minute presentation of CRT will be created in next month so each community's government can share it, and the date of the celebration is May 21 at Goldner-Walsh (Richard confirming).

Rochester Parks and Rec Master Plan comment opportunity – Melinda reported she and Fred attended a public meeting and provided high-level support and representation for the CRT. There is a survey available to offer comments/recommendations and the Master Plan will be updated by the end of 2023.

Map Boxes – the FCRT Board agreed to eliminate physical map boxes by the end of 2024 and throw out all spare boxes/hardware; also, FCRT will work to have a QR code to a map available when the boxes are removed and a map will be maintained for electronic viewing. (Corey, John H – motion passed).

Ongoing trail maintenance – discussion on what trail maintenance is needed and who will perform the work. It was noted that some parts of the trail are not being maintained at the level desired and to fix this condition it will likely require multiple solutions: some maintenance grants are available for a city's usage, many new grants have a sustainability clause, and most cities are working to maintain their portion of the trail – the FCRT Board will continue to voice support for maintenance.

CRT Pavement Markers – Fred indicated FCRT has 24 sidewalk markers and glue available. The FCRT Board agreed to put sidewalk trail markers at South Boulevard and Franklin & Woodward if approved by city.

Michigan Trails Magazine 2024 – the FCRT Board believes this should be supported and a commitment is due by October 31 (requires approximately \$1600 from the cities and FCRT based on past costs). FCRT

(Fred) will ask each city if they will be willing to share cost in a ½ page ad divided 6 ways (Josh, Fred – approved).

Pontiac Projects of Interest – Richard led the discussion

- Bagley / Gold Drive Reconstruction – planned 2024
- South Boulevard/Woodward Crossing – not complete, barriers still up on sidewalks
- Meadow Drive/CRT Extension – no engineering firm hired, in planning phase
- Pike Street Corridor – no engineering firm hired, in planning phase, \$4M grant likely available in 2024
- Woodward Loop Re-construction – engineering design occurring, construction 2025
- Phoenix Center Project – no update
- Franklin Road Repaving – no update
- Air pump installation – no update

DIA Inside / Out Trail Art – 4/5 cities with CRT applied, no update

Mid-block Crossing at Adams Road – planned for 2024

Sylvan Lake Improvements / OLRC #4 – working well

Other Project Updates – none

Media Outreach

- HOUR Magazine – will have an article on Pontiac and feature the CRT
- Website and social media is being updated – not complete
- City Council presentation – Josh is working on it
- Alliance Meetings – planned to continue these meetings

Other Business / Updates

New Business:

- October 5 -TWALA meeting at Bowers Farm (sponsored by Oakland County)
- Survey is available for the Metroparks that includes trails

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 (Tom, Richard).

Next Meeting – Tuesday October 24, 2023

Submitted by Tom Barnes