

French Creek Recreational Trails Mtg. 10/13/15

Members present: Ed Easley, Dick Eglinton, Marci Finton, Ed Siverling, Bill Dross, Chuck Shelvey, Dave Shafer, Tom Maxiener, Tim Davis, Peter Oven, Sherry Mason, Jean Weber, Joyce Hayden

President Dick Eglinton called the meeting to order and Marci, Treasurer, presented the financial report. She listed the balances in the General, Maintenance and Grant Accounts along with the Crawford Heritage Community Foundation. She stated that there are still memberships coming in responding to our spring mailing.

Marci had suggested adding a personal note to the McNally match letters before mailing so members chose those to people they knew personally. Members could take the letters home to write and then mail enclosing return envelopes.

Dave spoke on the Connector progress telling of the letter from the Army Corp of Engineers after their July visit. They were not pleased that Dave had authorized JC Lee to install temporary crossing which they described as a violation. They were concerned a truck could slide into wetland and hard to remove. Jay Russell prepared a restoration plan that described removal of crossings.

Peter reported Brad Jeannerat has built bridges and is waiting for steel to arrive which Dick will paint. JC Lee has grubbed the vegetation all the way to Ainsworth. We may check whether wood chips would be allowed to be brought in to fill low spots.

In Tim's maintenance report he told of gearing up for leaf removal and putting in stakes to mark culverts. Dick offered a work night to help but Tim wants to work when he can. He also passed around the calling list of mowers and chainsawers.

Dick reminded members of the upcoming Pancake Breakfast on November 14 at the Senior Center from 7-1. The Kiwanis have chosen FCRT as their recipient and would appreciate our help. Selling tickets, working that day or just attending were all suggested.

Joyce attended the Annual Health Fair at the Crawford County Courthouse on October 9 from 9-3. She displayed the map of the trail, answered questions and handed out brochures along with raffling a trail t-shirt.

There was some discussion on only plowing half of the trail in the winter. We would like to attract more skiers along with having some trail plowed for walkers. More discussion to follow.

Joyce received an application to use the trail on December 13 for the Clint Puller Memorial Toy Run. Mike Richards is their contact person and has sent the required check.

Bill announced that Jon Frye, Athletic Director at MASH, would like to have different sports teams adopt the trail. It was suggested they could be in charge of recycling and removing dead limbs from the "cut area" with Bill being the contact person.

Members enjoyed reading Linda's article in the Tribune summarizing our trail use survey. The canal article will run in November.

Joyce passed around a sign-up sheet for the Annual Dinner/Meeting on November 10. It will be held at Montana's Rib and Chop House in the back room starting at 6 PM. She needs to call in a final number by November 3 so please let her know of any changes. We will order off the menu. Also, Dick E and Ed E will work on a nomination committee for board members.

No word yet on the grant that we applied for which is hung up in state budget troubles. Dick, Sue Wissinger and Joyce will begin working on a new Penndot Multi Intermodal grant.

It was voted to pay the \$6,453.98 bill to Chambers Steel Co. which we will get reimbursement from County after the Commissioners vote.

Submitted by Joyce Hayden