

FCRT Board Meeting March 12, 2024, at Ernst Conservation Seed

Attending were: Dick Eglinton Jerry Boyle (via Zoom) Marci Finton Bill Dross (via Zoom) Sherry Mason Calvin Ernst Tom Maxeiner Keith Knighton Tom Kennedy Jean Weber Dave Hotchkiss Peter Oven

Susan Miller Mark Miller Cameron Guffey Chris Adsit Erik Kulasa Kathy Kulasa Chris Ferry

Trail Blazer July 14, 2024: A race committee meeting was held at 6:15. One big change this year is all registrations will be handled online by Wolf Creek Timing services. Sherry emailed the corrected sponsor information and advertisement of race which is similar to an old registration form. Sponsors will be advertised on the online registration as well as the participant shirts. Sponsors sent in so far are Ernst Seed, Dr Dennis Finton and VFW Post 2006. Members are encouraged to secure sponsors early. We will need to watch for wheelchair participants to see if we should get the mats from Sunbelt again. Members are reminded to bring the yard signs so Sherry can get the dates changed. We will need as many members to work the race as possible. Marci and Susan will work on shirt designs. Chris Ferry spoke on reviewing the easement with KT Developers and needing the most recent appraisal.

Dave H drafted an easement for Post utilizing the format of the easement with Ainsworth.

Financial Report: Jerry sent before meeting. Jerry cashed in one CD anticipating the payment of the bridge.

Shippen St to Bicentennial Park: Report from Michael Baker will be published soon. Jean offered to call E Greiser from Hydroblox for support of the trail. Post was engaged at the discussion. MBI will issue a list of action items.

Connector Report: Paving will occur as weather permits.

Trail Maintenance: Erik will complete the root cutting and grinding pavement work as the weather permits.

Bill contacted Commercial Turf to kill the moss on 3 miles of the trail (1.5 miles, each side). They quoted \$1815. They will be spraying the Bailey Rd end when the weather permits.

Cameron has gotten prices of \$20-\$25 per lock for combination locks for the bollards.

Bill reported new Adopt a Trail volunteers will be needed from Bean's to Shippen St. Dave and Linda Wetsell have agreed to adopt the half mile from Shippen St to the Smock Bridge.

Erik will look at the steel we have to fabricate a pusher to clear under the bridges where sediment has collected.

Conneaut Lake end: Court proceedings with G Griggs have not been rescheduled.

Calvin reported the bridge may be arriving within the next week at Ernst Seed. Calvin and Erik and the Crane Company will coordinate getting the bridge in place.

Cameron has ideas on designs to build a kiosk to hold the cabinet from CL Historical Society plus room to post our information, similar to those at Mercer Pike and Bean's Trail Heads. Calvin suggested it should be placed at the parking area. It could be two sided to hold all the information.

Erik confirmed Carter Lumber will donate supplies for the project. Calvin and Cameron will meet to discuss placement.

Bill E reported via email that CLCDC has agreed to partner with Northwest Pennsylvania Mobility Alliance (i.e. the CATA Bikeshare non-profit) for funding, construction, and assisting in the operation of a new Conneaut Lake trailhead Bikeshare Station. CLCDC will donate 2 trail map lockable display cases for the Historical Society trail/ canal/ railroad/ aqueduct map currently being developed to be located at the Watson Run Creek bridge, and at the Conneaut Lake trailhead. When the weather is

appropriate, we will want to work with others to identify the precise location for the concrete pad required for the bike station. We will also work with others to coordinate the placement and installation of the map cases. They can be part of a larger kiosk or free standing.

By-Pass Trail end: no report but members have noticed PennDOT getting prepared for work.

Grants: No report

Bike Rentals: Bikes are at Bean's and more will be available at the Conneaut Cellars trail head.

Vernon Township: no report

Other business: Jan Hayatt, a guest presenter at the October meeting, is planning on using the trail Saturday mornings starting March 23 for a program called Walkable Meadville to raise funds for playgrounds around Meadville. She has 18 teams signed up. Sherry and Susan will assist on these walks. There has been publicity in the Meadville Tribune so we could have quite a large group on the Trail. Sherry asked Calvin to supply some seeds to the program. Sherry attended the FCVC ad hoc committee meeting. Meetings will continue to be held.

Next meeting will be April 9, 2024 7:00 at Ernst Conservation Seed. Trail Blazer race meeting will start at 6:15.

Meeting adjourned 8:24. Submitted by Marci Finton