

FCRT Board Meeting October 14, 2025, at Ernst Conservation Seed

Attending were: Dick Eglinton Ed Easley Jerry Boyle Marci Finton Bill Dross Calvin Ernst Tom Maxeiner Keith Knighton Tom Kennedy Jean Weber Brian Weber Dave Hotchkiss Susan Miller Mark Miller Cameron Guffey Bill Eldridge Marcel Moody Chris Adsit Erik Kulasa Kathy Kulasa Bill McComas and guest Mike Keeley

Financial Report: Jerry sent before the meeting and reviewed at meeting. Crawford Gives was deposited for a total of \$21497.97. The accountant bill will be coming soon. Jerry reminded us that there are funds remaining from grants that need to be used for those specific projects. Jerry submitted for the Winslow grant for a designated handicap parking spot at Bean's.

Shippen St to Bicentennial Park: We are waiting on Steve Halmi to work up an engineering quote. The route from PA Ave to Bicentennial Park still needs to be decided.

By Pass trail and Bessemer Trail: The Bessemer trail maintenance is proceeding well with the work release group being supervised by Jim DuPont. Ed reported a new shed to house equipment is a possibility according to Jim Becker. The By-Pass trail is taking shape by PennDOT. Mowing will need to be decided when it is complete.

Trail Maintenance: Bill Dross and Cameron reported the second bridge received a pour of quick shim and it secured up nicely. They will finish other spots. ACE quoted \$700 for wood to replace the rotted wood on the decking and railings of bridges 2 and 3.

18ft and 33ft telephone poles are available to be used for parking lot edging at Bailey Rd parking area. Bill and Calvin will coordinate equipment for moving.

Erik filled in the eroded area at the Bird Watching Station.

Leaves are starting to fall so anyone who is able to blow off the trail is encouraged to do so. Cameron fabricated an attachment for a 2" hitch to offset the blower so it can be used behind a vehicle.

Mark Miller removed the tree under the covered bridge, so water flow is not restricted.

Erik completed the remilled asphalt on the access road to Semerad Rd.

Car stops at Beans need to be realigned and spiked down. Bill will explore ways to mark their location during the winter snow fall so users won't run into them.

David Steele has been painting the bollards and parking stops. He arranged for the handicapped parking spots to be repainted.

Bill will arrange for signage at CL and Krider road with our contact information.

Trail by Bean's asphalt: A work day Thursday October 23 is planned for all to help smooth concrete to help stop erosion of the trail. Dick will coordinate trucks and time.

Conneaut Lake End : Bill E reported that the bikes are still at trail head. He invited FCRT to have a tent at the Ice Festival on December 6. Last year we had maps, shirts for sale and signups for volunteers.

Tunnel under Rt. 19: no report

Grants: Ed reported DCNR Stake Holders meeting is October 21, he is planning to attend. Palmiero Give Back program will be November 1-30. Jerry signed us up again.

Bike Rentals: Bikes are still present at Bean's and CL

Other business: Mike Keeley from Allegheny College has been gathering footage of nature and people on the trail. He's planning on a few more interviews. He hopes to have it completed by years end. He will keep us posted.

Annual meeting in November: Terry Lobdell, who is a local expert on bats, how they impact the environment and how we can help them thrive along the trail will be the speaker.

The meeting will be on Wednesday Nov 12, 5:00, dinner at 6:00 at The Iroquois Boating and Fishing Club at Conneaut Lake. Please RSVP to Sherry – sherry@sgprinting@windstream.net.

Marci sent invitations to the local representatives.

The cost for the meal will be \$28.95, please pre-pay to Jerry or Marci

Next meeting will be November 12, 2025 5:00 at Iroquois Club, Conneaut Lake

Meeting adjourned 8:10. Submitted by Marci Finton