

FCRT Board Meeting June 9, 2026, at Ernst Conservation Seed

Attending were: Dick Eglinton Ed Easley Jerry Boyle Marci Finton Bill Dross Sherry Mason Wally Mason  
Tom Maxeiner Tom Kennedy Jean Weber Dave Hotchkiss Susan Miller Mark Miller Marcel Moody  
Bill McComas Dennie Finton Mike and Christie Geagan

Financial Report: Jerry sent before the meeting and reviewed at meeting. Bills to be paid: Sunbelt \$100.40, Wilson Engineering \$4429.70, Carrie's Custom Keepsakes \$20. Jerry motioned to approve payments, Susan Miller seconded, and the motion passed.

Jerry reviewed Cash Management Policy and Procedures (as follows)

- 1 - insure cash availability to meet any immediate or short term needs
- 2 - invest a minimum of 75% of long term balances in instruments that earn market rates while protecting principal with FDIC insurance
- 3 - invest a maximum of 25% of long term balances in instruments that offer the possibility of greater earnings without FDIC protection but carry the risk of principal loss

Sherry motioned to accept as written, Bill Dross seconded, motion passed. Dennie Finton suggested that they be added to the by-laws as an addendum.

Trail Blazer July 12, 2026: Start times are the same as last year, 7:30 for the 15K, 7:35 5K. Susan reported we have 52 participants signed up so far, which is comparable to last year and 23 sponsors, which is higher than last year. A work day is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8, 5:00 at Bean's Trailhead with a rain date of July 9. Trucks with volunteers in the beds to trim low branches and clearing debris will be the main focus.

Volunteers should be at Ernst Conservation Seed by 6 am race day. Susan will supply watermelon and bananas for after the race. Marci, Leeann, Betty and whoever else wants to will supply cookies (no nuts in the cookies).

Spring Support – Membership letter: YTD \$6360

Shippen St to Bicentennial Park: no news

Parkway trail: Dick E took care of the first few mowings. The rough terrain did not seem to be an issue. Bill D circulated a volunteer mower list for the Parkway trail. He will set a schedule with the 6 volunteers who signed up, using Peter's mower.

Bessemer Trail: The mowing is being done. CATA has added rental bicycles at the parking lot.

Trail Maintenance: The new 4'x6' map frames at Bean's Trail Head and Mercer Pike are up. Waiting on the maps to be printed, hopefully tomorrow.

The fencing company Bill contacted for the trail beside the Home Depot retention pond said they don't want to do it. Mark Miller and Bill will look at stronger fencing to put on the posts already there.

There are several areas of lifted asphalt from tree roots. The asphalt grinder may be a solution but is not easy to use. Cutting the roots at the side of the trail may be a solution to arrest lifting. Dick E, Bill D and Erik will meet to discuss asphalt and ditch clean out.

Bill discussed the placement of a concrete handicapped parking area at Bean's Trail Head. Dick will talk to Brian Bean about placing it on his property so that the parking area connects to the paved trail.

Grant Funds for the project have been received. FCRT would like a written easement from Brian Bean. Dick will talk with Brian.

Commercial Turf will be spraying weeds this week, pending no rain. Vernon will mow from Krider to Shippen St mid June.

Mark Scarpitti, Park Manager at Goddard State Park offered to talk to some volunteers about what he has learned through the years about servicing trails and specifically moss control.

Tunnel under Rt 19: Calvin, Parke Wentling, Brian McNulty, and Dennie Finton met to discuss. Concrete culverts were decided to be the best option. Engineering drawings are the next step.

Conneaut Lake End : Chris and Wendy Brindle are overseeing weed eating, trash pickup, etc at the Conneaut Lake Trail Head. The kayak launch and dock will be installed sometime in June.

The township offered a grater and operator to improve the road and parking area. There may be an opportunity to get asphalt millings from other projects in the area.

Ainsworth Foundation awarded a grant for \$200K and LJL awarded a grant for \$50K for paving the trail from the CL trailhead towards Bailey Rd. We will see how many miles the money will cover.

Grants: The DCNR grant application has been completed and sent in. FCRT should be informed this summer whether we will receive the grant or not.

Bike Rentals: CATA bikes are at the Beans and Conneaut Lake trail heads, ready for rental. Tim requests we advertise on our website and Facebook for them.

Other business: GIS will be mapping the trail in the near future.

Reminder of trail events: July 12 - Trail Blazer, August 9 – Trail to Recovery event.

Discussion to have a sign/post located at various points along the trail with a QR code to report downed trees, trail damage and other issues was held. More discussion is needed.

Meeting adjourned 8:23. Submitted by Marci Finton

Next meeting will be July 7 2026, 7pm Ernst Conservation Seed, \*\* Please note that this is one week earlier than normal\*\*