FCRT Board Meeting October 13, 2026, at Ernst Conservation Seed

Attending were: Dick Eglinton Ed Easley Jerry Boyle Marci Finton Bill Dross Sherry Mason Wally Mason
Calvin Ernst Tom Maxeiner Keith Knighton Tom Kennedy David Hotchkiss
Peter Oven Susan Miller Mark Miller Bill Eldridge Marcel Moody Chris Adsit
Erik Kulasa Kathy Kulasa Karen Fabian Bill McComas Dennie Finton Brad Stallsmith

Financial Report: Jerry sent before the meeting and reviewed at meeting. Upcoming expenses: Accountant fees- $5-7000, already paid, handicap ramp for CL pavilion -$3379.38, Parkway trail raking - $500, Street light for Krider Rd Trail head $190.79, painting - $145, PO Box renewal - $130.

Fall Maintenance Letter: Jerry revised the Fall Maintenance Letter, Sherry will print and mail out. Jerry suggested that considering we no longer have the McNally Maintenance Match and we now have the August Crawford Gives, to combine the Fall mailing list and Spring mailing list into one.

New Board Members: New board members will be voted on in November. Wally Mason was nominated. Marci and Jerry will mail or email all members an invitation to the November meeting where new nominations will be heard and the board voted upon.

Shippen St to Bicentennial Park: no news

Parkway trail: Bill Dross reported the need for a workday to further remove the large rocks that were not pushed far enough off the trail and will be in the way of future mowing.
Peter Oven reported that Race St access is being used by the City but will be ready to be cleared after he hears from Peter Griella. He may gather some AC students to help with this project.
A company hired by PennDOT has been working on taking down the construction fencing, cleaning the catch basins and removing the silt sock.

Bessemer Trail: The mowing is being done.

Trail Maintenance: Bill D reported the trail will need to be blown clear of leaves multiple times. Any member can use the pull behind blower.
The continuation of the fence near the Oliver Bridge has been completed by G&J Fencing.
The concrete handicapped parking area at Bean's Trail Head has been completed by haf.AST and John Meyer and members have talked with some appreciative users.
New lumber on the decks of some of the bridges has been placed with the Carter Lumber donated wood.
The handicapped ramp was delivered to Ernst Seed. Bill will coordinate a workday to get it installed at the CL Pavilion.
The bike repair station has been installed at the CL Trailhead.
Bill and Jerry installed a solar light at the Krider Rd Trailhead.
David Steele has painted car stops at CL and various handicapped parking spaces.
Cold patch a hole at the curve past Krider Rd bollards

Tunnel under Rt 19: Financing is being investigated. Dennie F reported that the goal is to have private financing, if possible, instead of grants.

Conneaut Lake End: FCRT received the $300,000 DCNR grant for paving. Bill Eldridge reported the contract will be coming for signatures. FCRT has matching funds on hand. Bill E circulated a "Suggested Roles and Responsibilities (overseen by FCRT Board) list and moved to approve the list, Ed seconded, motion passed.

Grants: Bill E recommended to look at LSA grants for further funds for paving if necessary, after the bids are received. DCNR Trail Grants are another option for funding and are held January – May.

Bike Rentals: Tim Geibel, Dennie, Kevin Sprong, Dan Douglas and Mike Costa will be meeting on Tuesday, September 15 to discuss shelters for the CATA Bikes. CATA will pay for materials, Craw Tech will provide the labor. The first shelter will be placed at CL, hopefully before winter, the Bean's shelter will be placed in the Spring.

November Annual Meeting: Wednesday November 11, 2026. 5:30 arrive, dinner 6:00. Speaker will be Dennie Finton on the accomplishments of FCRT in 2026.

Other business:

Quilt Raffle: Tickets will be available at Fox's Sew & Vac in the Downtown Mall until the drawing November 9.

Dick E and Marcel will meet with Thom Shorts from Post to discuss his ideas on a Christmas Trail event.

Trail events: Toys for Tots November 29, 2026. St James Haven fundraiser 5-15-2027

Meeting adjourned 8:28. Submitted by Marci Finton

Next meeting will be November 11, 2026, 7pm Iroquois Boating and Fishing Club