

FWT Board Meeting—Minutes
May 11, 2020

Present (via Zoom): Anna Taylor, Stewart Agor, Craig Hurlbut, Bud Gearhart, Denise Bilsback, John Boettcher, Eric Turberg, Bill Polito, Shari Gnolek, Matt Steiner

A. Administrative Tasks

1. Approve/Change Agenda
2. Minutes from April Meeting. Emailed to FWT Board with May Board Meeting Minutes
3. Membership Status- Denise Bilsback.: See report, 197 members.
4. Review of Treasurer Report- Bill Polito.: See report.
5. Social Media – Anna Taylor: Facebook 651 followers, Instagram 161 followers
6. Website Inquiry Summary – Norma Platt: See Report, Eric will respond to scout volunteer inquiry
7. Communications Update- John Boettcher FWT newsletter is posted on P&R website. Workday—May trash pickup, rescheduled to June 6: Target Hojack near 250 and Hickory Bark area, cancelled as of 05/12/20 NYS Covid19 Response remains in place, ban on all non-essential group gatherings.
8. Website Updates – Steve Snyder/Anna Taylor: Trail Steward Contact Information has been updated

B. Main Topics

1. Chris Bilow New Commissioner of Parks & Rec Meeting update- Anna Taylor
 - a. Anna met with Chris Friday 5/8. Updated Chris with FWT brief history, and 2020 goals (before the virus).
 - b. Anna and Chris noted the shared goal of building a relationship between P&R and FWT
 - c. Glenn Morrell, New Parks Director identified as Liaison for FWT
 - o Anna and Craig will set up a meeting with Glenn & Chris to discuss shared efforts and communication.
 - d. Hojack Trail Repair Update:
 - o Chris noted P&R hired Highway dept. for repair work on Hojack near Van Alstyne. Budget and scope of work are limited to building up surface with paper and stone.
 - o Anna noted FWT previous Grant application submitted for repair of this area and noted drainage challenges.
 - e. Hojack Trail Mowing:
 - o Anna outlined combined effort of mowing the Hojack Trail, and that some areas posed a challenge for FWT Trail stewards with equipment, access and debris. Due to these challenges FWT started gathering quotes for mowing these areas.
 - o Chris requested clarification on areas and level of effort for mowing.
 - o Anna and Craig to follow up with Chris and Glenn providing documentation of Hojack Trail mowing. Ana to set up meeting in May.
2. Trail Chair Update – Craig Hurlbut

- a. June Trail work day June 13: Craig will reach out to Trails ROC Volunteer coordinator. Proposed project to work on Pellet trail entering the Big Woods. Will require digging into uphill bank & using dirt to build up trail. (John). Nature of work requires working close to others—social distance may be difficult to maintain. Due to NYS Covid19 guidelines regarding group gatherings Board to reevaluate in June.
3. Bird Sanctuary Trail
 - a. Proposed additional trail, bridges and seating area. No action at this time, Bud to follow up with neighbors regarding new proposed trail and bridges. Bud and Eric to provide cost estimate for proposed trail work and bridges and confirm new picnic table as scope of work. Board to vote when information has been provided.
4. Boy Scout Projects- Eric Turberg:
 - a. Eric will reach out to scout who connected through email page. Eric will work with Scout on project timeline.
5. New Trails
 - a. State Rd Property- Updates Hal/Bud/Anna: Wet and overgrown. Hal continues to work on this project. This year we may be able to clear trail from State Road to the pond.
6. New Open Space
 - a. Bruckner Property: Town plans for proposed property yet to be defined
 - b. Eckler, Cumberland, Kiwanis: Properties identified by FWT as excellent additions to existing Open Space given their proximity to existing Trail network.
6. Trail Mapping- Shari
 - a. Shari has updated WRNP maps and has updated our website. Anna and Bud and interested parties to be trained on mapping by Shari. FWT will create a generic email address to be used with Google Maps Pro to allow for more people to access and edit maps in the future and could also be used with Dropbox. Anna will email out to Trails groups regarding suggestions for more user-friendly mapping software.
7. Webster Library: request for Presentation Highlighting one of our Trails in a Zoom Meeting, Anna to share link to Libraries' 1st on-line event with group, for reference.
8. Upcoming Events
 - a. May 2, 9-Noon, Scavenger Hunt at NPP- hoping to reschedule for fall
 - b. June 6, National Trail Day, Wegmans/FWT Passport Hike: Anna to reach out to Wegmans contact, potential virtual hike

Adjourn!