

FWT Board Meeting Sept 9, 2022

Attendees: John Boettcher, Ron Happ, Hal Harris, Craig Hurlbut, Dennis Kuhn, Norma Platt, Bill Polito, Anna Taylor, Patrick Fulker

A. Administrative Tasks

1. Approve/Change Agenda: [Approved](#)
2. Approve Minutes from August 2022 Meeting: [Approved](#)
3. Membership Status- Denise Bilsback: [Detailed report distributed to Board via email](#)
 - a [Total members: 247](#)
 - b [Work hours: view report](#)
4. Review of Treasurer Report- Bill Polito: [Detailed report distributed to Board via email](#)
 - a [Rotary Grant: Anna, Norma and Bill met with Joe Corona regarding the Rotary Grant accounting. The Rotary will send a check to FWT and we are to send receipts to the Rotary as we make purchases for the project](#)
 - b [Bill will be out of town in October](#)
5. Social Media – Anna Taylor
 - a [FB: 935, up five from August](#)
 - b [Meetup: 356, up 20 from August](#)
6. Website Inquiry Summary – Norma Platt
 - a [Representative from the Knights of Columbus regarding their annual charity dinner and FWT potentially applying to receive proceeds from the event. Anna followed up, has phone call scheduled with representative Tom Traub 09/13.](#)
 - b [Trees down messages. Messages forwarded to the chainsaw crew.](#)
 - c [New resident to area, looking for volunteer opportunities. Norma updated her about Trail workdays](#)
 - d [Two inquiries to make donations and purchase a plaque/bench to honor a family member. Anna followed up that we are working on a new policy regarding plaques, trees, and benches.](#)
7. Communications Update- John Boettcher:
 - a [Workday on Sept 17 Gosnell Big Woods](#)
 - b [Autumn Newsletter deadline coming up, and it will include information about annual FWT meeting. John will be reaching out to folks for submissions](#)
8. Habitat Committee Update - Norma Platt: [xxx](#)

B. Main Topics

1. **Trails Planning & Maintenance:** -
 - Maintenance: Planning - Craig
 - o Mowing – volunteer calendar: [no update](#)
 - o Trailer - Status – Steve and Craig: [no update](#)
 - Scout Project Eric Stephany: Sept 3, Bridge Build: Four Mile Creek, New Orange Trail, Hal designed the bridge, the P&R dropped off materials. Scouts hauled in materials. Dennis, and Ron did amazing work placing footings, and the Scouts built the bridge with support from Dennis, Craig, Hal and Ron and their family and friends. Bridge is

complete! **ACTION ITEM:** Norma and Craig to work on mapping of orange trail and Dennis and Hal to purchase and install Trail markers

- Trail Work #8: Gosnell Big Woods Sept 17th- Craig to coordinate with Norma, Big Field trimming.
 - Hojack Trail update (Planning mtg to be scheduled) – Anna: Meeting to discussion of the trail condition of each segment of the trail, new bench locations, and priority projects. Anna to schedule meeting in 2023.
 - Lost & Found baskets: **ACTION ITEM:** John B will communicate the policy to trail stewards, Anna to purchase (10) baskets
 - M Johnson Trail - Norma: A map of the M. Johnson trail is ready to be uploaded to the Website. An entrance archway with signage is in the works with materials already purchased. A plaque like the one at the John Unger trail is in process. A dedication hike/event date TBD. **ACTION ITEMS:** Anna and Norma will coordinate to do list to complete the trail. Norma to provide map files to Steve for Website.
 - Counting Trail usage – John. John did preliminary trail usage counting at three locations from Friday noon to Sunday afternoon. Results: Gosnell Big Woods Preserve 333, Whiting Road Nature Preserve 289, Four Mile Creek Preserve 149. **ACTION ITEM:** All, decide on a Counting Tool (not cameras) and implement, timeframe TBD.
 - Grants: Status of Awards/Next Steps - Hal, Norma, Anna. Town Recovery Grant funds- no update. Rotary grant- see Treasurer Report above. Muller Foundation Grant requires letter from FWT President. Anna to provide in November.
 - Non-Fixed Assets/Tools Management:
 - Need to establish a central location for tool storage or a tracking process/sign out process. Suggest adding an administrative item to agenda for tool tracking. Determine who will be responsible for the list.
 - Hedge trimmer **ACTION ITEM:** Craig to purchase at future date.
2. **Re-Tree Project:** Norma/Sarah: Tree planting workday postponed per recommendation from White Oak Nursery, waiting on more conducive weather for planting.
- Norma will be going to White Oak Nursery and picking up trees in the next couple weeks.
3. **Promote:** All
- Partnerships: WHEN (Webster Health & Education Network) update (see Flyer Attached & Link below) <https://www.whendfcc.org/healthy>. Missy Rosenberg suggested a joint hike with FWT and WHEN. Details to follow.
 - Memorial Program – Next Steps – All. Anna distributed the Monroe County program & that of the Webster Arboretum. **ACTION ITEM:** Anna to provide DRAFT policy for review of prior to October Board Mtg. Upon FWT Board Approval, draft policy will be shared with Glenn and Chris for P&R Approval.
 - Website- Proposed updates- Anna. Want to add drop down for ReTree information. **ACTION ITEM:** Norma and Sarah to work with Don S to add titles and materials.
 - Recruitment -Anna: Welcome Patrick! Anna and Bill spoke with candidate for Treasurer position on 09/07/22. Will follow up with any news from that meeting.
 - Annual Meeting – Anna: Proposed three options for guest speaker. Location will be Finn Park lodge again. **ACTION ITEM:** Anna to follow up with potential speakers
 - Car Hike along the Creek Hike: FMCP rescheduled for October 29, Dennis to host, need sweep.

- Family Scavenger Hunt: Kent Park, Nov 5th, 10am-12am Hosted by Petit Family, FWT
Volunteers wanted
- Hot Cocoa Hike: FMCP Nov. 5th, 7pm-8:30pm Denise & Rich Bilsback to host, Anna T &
Rich to assist
- Annual Meeting: Date and location TBD

4. **Open Space:** Status – Hal

- Woods Property Parcel Grant continues to move forward. Hal and Anna received
Forest Management Document for review. Provided their feedback.

5. **Open Discussion**

- Hojack Trail ramp at Lake Rd is complete. Trail is still not open to the public; we
believe pending the completion of road striping.

END NOTES