

FWT Board Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2023

Attendees: Denise Bilsback, Ron Happ, Hal Harris, Craig Hurlburt, Dennis Kuhn, Chris Peterson, Anna Taylor, Steve Snyder, Sarah White

A. Administrative Tasks

1. Approve/Change Agenda: [Add Community Arts Day discussion](#)
2. Approve Minutes from January 2023 Meeting: [Approved](#)
3. Membership Status - Denise Bilsback: [Detailed report sent to Board via email](#)
 - [Members: 216 \(lapsed members removed from list\)](#)
 - [Work hours: 37 hours](#)
4. Review of Treasurer Report - Chris/Lynn Peterson
 - [Cash balance \\$40,483](#)
 - [Be sure to use Peterson2418@gmail.com for all finance communications](#)
5. Social Media – Anna Taylor
 - [FB followers: 969](#)
 - [Meetup: 425](#)
6. Website Inquiry Summary – Norma Platt
 - [Small trees vandalized in Gosnell.](#)
 - [New member checking on status of membership.](#)
 - [Color Irondequoit Green group looking for ReTree information.](#)
 - [Scout group looking for a small project to do during camping trip.](#)
7. Communications Update - John Boettcher: [No update](#)
8. Habitat Committee Update - Norma Platt: [No update](#)

B. Main Topics

1. **Goals/Priorities** to Support our Mission
 - Mapping - Hal/Denise: [Interactive map updated on new software \(FELT\) and ready for Website. Individual PDF trail maps to be updated next. All updates to be done at same time once individual maps are complete.](#)
 - Trail Use Counting – All, review John’s Proposal:
 - [Voted to approve purchase of recommended tracker. **ACTION ITEM: Anna to ask John to make purchase and to ask for an actionable plan for how we can track the usage.**](#)
 - Non-Fixed Asset Tracking – List Visibility/Insurance – Anna:
 - [Plan to keep asset spreadsheet on Dropbox.](#)
ACTION ITEM: Anna to follow up with Ben W. to look into insurance (property, liability, fiduciary, etc.). Chris to inquire with other not-for-profit organizations to see what they do.
 - [Suggestion to have the policy that volunteers must sign the waiver prior to work on the Website. **ACTION ITEM: Craig to draft wording for Website and Steve to put it on the Web.**](#)
 - Website updates with ReTree/Events/Info – All
 - [ReTree information to be put in new menu “Conservation” with Habitat Committee information moved from the About Us section. **ACTION ITEM: Sarah to send Steve the specifics about how to update the site.**](#)
 - [Events to be added as soon as list is finalized.](#)

2. **Trails Planning & Maintenance:**

- Priority project for 2023 – Craig: **List of work days and projects to be finalized for March.**
 - Steve and Craig found a trailer to be purchased. **ACTION ITEM: Follow up with Chris for purchase process.**
 - Hojack trail clean up – April 15
 - State Road trail clean up and work to complete the eastern trail – 2 workdays needed, with 10-12 people each. Early in the season is preferred.
 - FMC – additional stone needs to be laid, ideally by the XC team; Boardwalk work needed on Orange Trail, with ~100 feet estimated.
 - Hojack – 4 benches to be constructed by scouts. Materials to be purchased by end of May with grant funding. **ACTION ITEM: Anna to seek out input for locations for benches. Craig to provide bench plans to Patrick.**
 - Whiting Road
 - 2 Orange Trail boardwalk replacements needed.
 - Red Trail boardwalk may need replacement.
 - Green Trail bridge at north end needs to be elevated. **ACTION ITEM: Craig to talk with Patrick for Green trail work.**
 - Cleat installation on 3 Green trail bridges.
 - Woods property – Possibility of a scout project in the fall. 2 boardwalks will be needed from WRNP to Woods. There may be other work required in the grant.
 - Tree planting in September or October, with many people needed. Installation of cardboard “mulch” to be done by Habitat Committee.
 - Hojack – drainage ditch clean up.
 - Michael Johnson bench.
 - Vosburg – work needed, TBD.
- Mowing schedule to be established in the next month or two.
- Stewards Vests/Hats for Identification, per P&R – Anna: **Looking at hats and armbands instead of vests, including pricing.**
- Hojack Trail Visioning update – Anna: Anna met with trail stewards, and received contract information from Village. Developing a list of improvements, including standard bollards/gates, standard signage, entrance signage at Phillips Rd, surface improvements. Then possibly a hike.

3. **Re-Tree Project:** Sarah

- 2023 Proposal – Approved as presented.
- Ron has concerns about wild crabapple trees being cut down during invasive clearing projects. Also need to make sure piles of cleared materials are off the trail so it's easier to mow.
- As spending is incurred, Chris will need to know what spending is against what grants.
- RGE willing to give \$1000 on Arbor Day (April 28) for ReTree.

4. **Promote: Events/Fundraising 2023:**

- Grant Funds – status: Knights of Columbus grant was given to Meals on Wheels.

5. **Open Space:** Hal

- Woods property – ownership transfer won't be completed until later in 2023. Chris Bilow would like to discuss plans before any work is done.

6. Action Items/Open Discussion

None

Promote: Events/Fundraising 2023

- Webster Volunteer Fair, May 11, 4pm-6pm – John to coordinate. Dennis offered to help. Bring signup sheet and Membership applications
- Community Arts Day April 15 10am to 4pm. Three two-hour slots for volunteers to staff table. \$30 registration to be paid by FWT. Denise to provide tables. **ACTION ITEM: Let Dennis know if you'd like to volunteer. Dennis will also solicit the membership.**
- M Johnson Preserve Trail, Ribbon Cutting/Hike- Norma:
- 4 Mile Creek, Hike the New Trail - Dennis
- Spring Scavenger Hunt - Emily/WHEN/Missy R
- Cars Along the Creek - Dennis
- Hot Cocoa Hike- Denise
- Annual Meeting - Anna
- Monthly Hikes: (modify format) - Anna
- Passport Program Refresh - Denise