

FWT Board Meeting

June 12, 2023

Attendees: Denise Bilsback; John Bottcher, Pat Fulkerson, Ron Happ, Dennis Kuhn, Norma Platt, Steve Snyder, Anna Taylor, Sarah White

A. Administrative Tasks

1. Approve/Change Agenda – Approved with addition of QR codes on brochures and removal of scout project presentation
2. Approve Minutes from May 2023 Meeting - Approved
3. Membership Status- Denise Bilsback – detailed report distributed to Board via email
 - 230 members
 - 630 volunteer hours in May
 - In Memoria donations received
 - \$280 in scavenger hunt donations
4. Review of Treasurer Report- Chris/Lynn Peterson – Detailed report distributed to Board via DropBox
5. Social Media – Anna Taylor
 - FB followers: 983
 - Meetup: 470 members
6. Website Inquiry Summary – Norma Platt
 - Scout looking for volunteer hours referred to monthly work days and habitat committee work
 - Freshman class advisor looking for a volunteer project referred to Hal and Craig for work days.
 - United Church of Christ has designated FWT as the beneficiary of their summer concert series and is looking for someone to speak. Dennis volunteered for this.
 - Another individual looking for volunteer hours was referred to Dennis and Anna.
 - Chamber of Commerce would like someone to speak at their breakfast event on June 23. Anna and Steve will speak at the event.
 - Question about cameras on Bird Song was referred to Parks and Rec.
 - Report of a bench on the John Unger trail that had fallen over. Norma and John repaired this.
7. Communications Update- John Boettcher
 - Newsletter distributed, and no feedback received. Suggestion to have some other form of member outreach. After discussion, decision made to continue newsletter on the current format with the possibility of additional outreach.
8. Habitat Committee Update - Norma Platt: 40 hours of work including:
 - Garlic mustard removal
 - Assisting ReTree with planting of trees and shrubs at Whiting Road

B. Main Topics

1. **Scout Project Presentation** – Scout had to cancel, but he needs to complete his project in the very near future. Patrick to provide dates for virtual meeting for scout to present to the Board.
2. **Goals/Priorities**
 - Trail Use Counting – John/All: Board is in agreement with the need to count users, but there remain questions as to how to do this. **ACTION ITEM: Sarah to share a trail counter example with the board. Anna to follow up with Town to understand concerns.**
 - Insurance – Anna:

- Anna is in discussions with the company that insures Genesee Land Trust to obtain a quote. after we have a quote covering all assets (tools and equipment with value and where stored), total acreage of open space and miles of trails. Sarah to work with Anna on documenting assets.
- Once the Board has a quote, the Board will review it with the company.
- New Forms/Tracking – Anna: Suggestion to create a single-source for tracking all FWT assets, including acreage of open space, miles of trails maintained, tools and equipment value and storage locations. **ACTION ITEM: Sarah to work with Anna to create consolidated report.**
- Trail Projects Projects/Schedule Flyer for 2023: New flyer with all trail workdays to be posted in library and Rec Center and sent to Town.
- New Volunteer/Member Form: Anna to work with Denise to add QR code to new member form.
- Website updates with Re-Tree/Events/ Info – Steve: All events are posted, and new maps need to be posted. **ACTION ITEM: Steve to continue updating maps.**

3. Trails Planning & Maintenance:

- Workday #2, State Rd – May 20th – Craig/Hal feedback: Small group of volunteers including neighbors completed much of the work. Additional work to be scheduled for a later date.
- Workday #3, Four Mile Creek Preserve – Craig/Dennis: Creation of new shortcut on Red Trail to overlook.
- Trail Inventory- Boardwalk replacement – All: Several in the WRNP need new decking. If any boardwalks or bridges have safety issues, a separate workday/project will need to be planned, possibly for October.
- Stewards Vests for Identification, per P&R- Order status – All: **ACTION ITEM: Anna to complete the order.**
- Hojack Trail – Kiosk Info from the Village – Hal: No update

4. Re-Tree Project: Sarah

- 2023 Field plantings – More than 50 already, including many from the nursery.
- \$1000 grant from Rochester Birding Association for clearing invasives and planting native species with protection.
- Fall plans for more planting, including September workday.

5. Promote: Events/Fundraising 2023:

- Grant Funds –
 - Rotary Grant - Bench status, install locations/ schedule- Craig/Patrick: Materials purchased. Locations need to be identified, including 2 in Michael A. Johnson and 3 on Hojack. **ACTION ITEM: Craig and Norma will provide Anna and Patrick with the locations for the benches.**
 - Patrick has scouts identified to build the bridges.
 - **ACTION ITEM: Anna to provide Rotary with an update.**
- Webster Library – Summer Reading Kick-off June 21, 2023 from 5:30 to 7:30pm, but no one can attend.
- Webster Chamber of Commerce – Meeting June 23, 2023 – Anna and Steve: Discussed above.
- Trees Along the Trail Challenge on August 5 – Dennis: Dennis will distribute the challenge quiz to the Board for feedback. White Oak Nursery will provide three trees for the raffle. Balsam fir seedlings will be available for all participants.
- Fall Scavenger Hunt - Emily P. will organize on November 4 at Chiyoda.
- Hot Cocoa Hike will be November 4.

- Fairy Trail Proposal - P&R: Not to be pursued at this time.

6. Open Space:

- Gary Woods Community Forrest – Hal: No further updates.

7. Action Items/Open Discussion

- Brochures need to be ordered. Plan to order 1000 now, and update the brochure with the new map PDF for the next. Spending approved by voice vote.