



**Friends of SMARTrails
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday September 12, 2022
Village of Kaleva (former Elementary School)
6:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Karen Kolk, Vice-president; Linda Cudney, Secretary; Jacque Erdman, Treasurer; Zachary Pawlowski, Elaine Gibbs and Dave Myers.

Board Members Absent: Mary Reed, Al Taylor, Rob Carson. Rob sent message to all regarding a conflict and not be able to attend tonight's SMARTrails meeting.

Guests: Mark Coe, Jan Myers, Claire Richard, Laura Heintzelman, Tamara Buswinka and Sara Herberger.

1. Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Karen Kolk, vice president.

11. Consent Agenda

August 8, 2022, meeting minutes

1. Motioned by Dave Myers, seconded by Zach Pawlowski to accept the minutes from the August 8, 2022 meeting. AIF. Motion Carried.

2. Treasurers Report and Payment of Bills

Jacque Erdman furnished a Budget, Income and Expense Sheet and noted donations of \$375.00 year to date. and a list of income and expenses. Two bills are due (\$25.00 to Pro Web Marketing and \$25.00 for booth rental at the fair) plus the Sports Ink bill will be \$792.50 for volunteer shirts and hats, payable when hats are finished. Motioned by Linda, seconded by Dave to accept the Treasurers Report and the payment of bills when due and to transfer \$1,500.00 from MCCF to SMARTrails account. AIF. Motion carried. Jacque also reported that Filer Credit Union likes to have a balance of _____ in the account before service charges are charged.

111. New Business

1. New County Grant Writer, William Kennis invited to SMARTrails meeting. Mr Kennis may have had another commitment.

2. Tamara Buswinka Update

Tamara went over page 3 in our Strategic Plan and thru priorities and short term work assignments. Marketing and Fund development committees have met and trail stewards have been assigned. Friend recruitment has been done at various festivals during the summer. Still

work to do on volunteers, a Trail Summit contacting the Visitors Bureau, and acquiring properties for the trails from private land owners. Tamara will revise the priorities and short term assignments page and send to all before the next meeting so we have an up to date plan to give to donors.

3. Laura Heintzelman, MCCF

Laura congratulated all for how far we have come as a committee and stated that as a group, we have made a great jump start on the trail system in Manistee County with our grant awarded through the US Dept. of Commerce Economic Development Administration with a

— matching funds grant from the MCCF. Then introduced Sara Herberger, who is working with the Minger Fund at the Manistee County Community Foundation. She reminded all that large grants are due by October 17, 2022 and grants under \$5,000.00 can be submitted any time.

4. Volunteer Shirts & Hats.

Linda picked up the volunteer shirts today and showed them to all. It was decided the shirts were approximately \$16.00 apiece with set up and printing of SMARTrails on the front and volunteer on the back (in tri color). It was also decided that the hats will have the SMARTrails logo on the front and SMARTrails spelled out on the back. Hats will be ready next week and cost for the hat and set up will be approximately \$16.00 each too for volunteers.

IV. Old Business.

1. Update of Website. Zach is working on the social media. He would like to do a fall digital newsletter to send out and possibly do a quarterly newsletter. He invites all of us to send pictures. He will send out to all the contacts he has.
2. EDA Grant. Rob reported the EDAGrant was formally awarded. Rob is working on grant award paperwork and will be meeting with Scott Slavin, from the DNR and the EDA contact to move forward with the process. More to follow.
3. Festival Updates.

Jacque and Dave commented on The Manistee County Fair. It was a little disappointing, but had a good response from people who stopped. The Rusty Fish 100 is coming up on October 8, 2022 and we should have a SMARTrails table set up at Manistee National, where it will start and end. It will begin at 8:00 AM and ride to Iron Fish in Springdale Township and back to Manistee National. This will be the last one of the year. More rack cards, booklets, snowmobile maps and trail guides should be on hand along with the banner and map.

V. Other Business

1. Recreation Commission Update.

Meeting will be tomorrow night, September 13, 2022

2. Marketing Committee Update.

T-shirts are done and hats to come next week. Next marketing committee to meet Tuesday, October 27, 2022 at 6:00 PM at the Cleon Township Hall.

3. Fund Raising Update.

Will discuss meeting same night as Marketing Committee meeting.

VI. Board Member Comments/Correspondence.

1. Mark Coe is going to contact the Manistee County Visitors Bureau.
2. The Snowbirds may be seeking a grant for possibly purchasing a tractor with a brush arm segment for the fall trail maintenance.
3. A staging area should be added close to the Chief Road section of the trail.
4. It was discussed that the crushed limestone was a much better biking surface than the 22 A gravel for bikes on the trails.
5. There was an article in the newspaper about abandoning the railroad corridor in Manistee. This is something to keep in mind. Will they need a letter of recommendation from various entities for the railroad relocation plan.
6. Mark Coe mentioned that if SMARTrails needs storage space, the Snowbirds has storage space and meeting space if needed.
7. Wayne Beldo mentioned that the Village of Kaleva needs some type of proper gates at various places in the Village where vehicles and side by sides are traveling and tearing up the

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trail. The intent of these trails are for hiking, biking and snowmobile use. Linda will write a letter from the Friends of SMARTrails, The County Recreation Commission will write a letter, and the Snowbirds will write a letter to let the village know and to purchase some type of gate at the locations. Wayne Beldo will present the letters at the Village of Kaleva meeting on Monday, September 19, 2022.

8. Volunteer shirts are available.
9. Gates are up on sections of the trail.
10. Trails will need to be named from Thompsonville to Copemish, Chief Road North and Chief Road South.

VII. Adjourn. Motioned and supported to adjourn at 7:25 PM.

VIII. Next meeting will be Monday, October 10, 2022, at 9208 Kauko Street, Kaleva.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by:

Linda Cudney
Secretary
Friends of SMARTrails

Meeting Minutes Friends of SMARTrails

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