



Friends of SMARTrails Board Meeting Minutes Monday, July 15, 2024 Kaleva Community Center 6:00 PM

Board Members Present: Rob Carson, President; Linda Cudney, Secretary; Jacque Erdman, Treasurer; Mark Coe, Dave Myers.

Board Members Absent: Bonnie Brown, Elaine Gibbs, Claire Richards, Zachary Pawlowski.

Guests: Sara Herberger from Manistee County Community Foundation; Ric Alameddine, Wayne Beldo, Maple Grove Supervisor.

Call to Order Meeting called to order by Rob Carson, President at 6:03 PM.

- I. **Consent Agenda** It was motioned and supported to accept the consent agenda. AIF. Motion carried.
 1. **May 13, 2024 Board Minutes**
Motioned by Dave, supported by Mark to accept the minutes from the May 13, 2024 meeting. AIF. Motion Carried.
June 10, 2024 meeting was cancelled, due to members of SMARTrails attending the Networks Northwest Community Discussion on the Manistee County Master Plan update at the West Shore Community College building at 401 River St. in Manistee. Members attending were Linda, Claire, Jacque, Dave, Mark, Rob.
 2. **Treasurers Report and Payment of Bills**
Jacque presented the Treasurers report, with the Community Foundation balance amount being \$4,035.82 and the Filer Credit Union account balance of \$7,930.72 and FCU Share Account \$14.60.. Two bills were presented, one to Pro Web for \$100.00 and one bill for \$64.00 for the Post Office box. Linda motioned to approve the treasurers report and the payment of bills. Dave supported the motion. AIF Motion carried.
- II. **New Business :**
 1. **Ric Alameddine** gave a presentation and shared his progress on the Onekama Renewal Trail Project which is in the development stage and gave an update on meetings with various people, partners and organizations. He asked for some feedback from SMARTrails. Ric shared the Onekama trail feasibility study, goals, timelines, design phase and preliminary routes.
 2. **Mark Coe** suggested a project for SMARTrails that would map all the trail assets in Manistee County. There are many various trails, and it could be done as a flip chart, showing the snowmobiling, hiking, biking, loop trails, Equestrian trails, etc. Rob had done some work while at Manistee County Planning. It was suggested to bring ideas, etc

to the August meeting.

III. Old Business:

1. EDA Update

Rob reported the deed documents are still in the State of Michigan Attorney Generals office waiting for the attorney general's signature. The trail will probably not be constructed this year, and hopefully Rob will not have to file an extension, as our award needs to be spent by 2025. The DNR does not have an attorney, the Attorney General is their attorney.

2. Reports from different trail entities

Mark Coe reported the Snowbirds turned in their annual grant of \$675,000.00. The Snowbirds currently have 160 miles of trails. The Snowbirds are working on the Thompsonville to Interlochen trail. The Dirtbirds have presented trail routes to many of the Townships and Villages in Manistee County and asking for support.

IV. Other Business

1. Recreation Commission Update: Linda stated that there was no meeting in July. At the June meeting Katie Mehl stated that the objective is to no longer bundle the DNR grant with the Kaleva bathroom facility project, in order not to delay the bathroom facility project. Katie Mehl and David Jarvi met with the DNR and some new questions came up such as expanded road shoulders, forest road issues and whether to have local units of government maintain trails and not non profit groups.

2. Summer Festivals

Linda will be manning a table at Copemish Heritage Days this year on August 3, 2024. TARP (Thompsonville Area Revitalization Project) will also be at Copemish Heritage Days.

3. Zack was unable to attend the meeting but sent an email to all. He wondered if we received our new Debit Cards. Jacque had them and will get one to Zach. He has also started to migrate our website over so that we are in control of it, and will be 100 % done by the end of the month.

4. Zach also would like to order table cloths (either fitted version or flat version) Linda will let him know the size of our table. We also should order a EZ up tent for SMARTrails.

V. Board Members Comments/Correspondence

VI. Adjourn. Motioned and supported to adjourn at 7:50 P.M.

Next meeting on Monday, August 12, 2024 in Kaleva at the Community Center.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by: **Linda Cudney, Secretary, Friends of SMARTrails**

Linda Cudney
Secretary, Friends of SMARTrails