

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail

Minutes for the Open Monthly Meeting - October 1, 2013

The meeting was called to order by President Pat Rosenthal at 7:10pm

In attendance

6 Members

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes emailed on September 28, 2013 for the September 3rd meeting had one requested correction.

Motion: Tom Myatt requested to amend the Minutes to say Tom moved to approve up to \$1700 for Dave's Bench. Motion seconded, passed unanimously.

Update presented by Reno Deluzio, Milford Trail Committee: Phase 3 underway, there was a lot of special planning that went into Phase 3. There was also the expectation that corrections would be made to the plans. There is a new engineer heading up the construction and they have a few issues that they are dealing with at the moment. The contractor has been very compliant regarding the issues and changes but has had to deal with the expenses being more than expected.

Bill Kavanaugh mentioned that he saw there were stump grinders there this week which is good progress for the trail.

Update presented by Pat Rosenthal, President:

There is a change in officers. Theresa Mazzarelli has submitted her resignation from VP position so there is now a vacancy for the Vice President position on the Board.

Margaret Myatt forwarded a note from Mike Nicholson, Disability Commission, about benches. It is in regard to the Phase 3 rest area construction and the benches, specifically the handicapped benches. They are ordering 4 benches but are planning on 2 benches along the trail currently. The Disabilities Commission has met with Reno/Trail committee about the specially designed benches and the accessibility on the Phase 3 portion of the trail.

Pat has been communicating with Michelle DeFonte at BVT and was introduced to Elena Hall who is working on the fence mural project. The intent is still there. They are looking for suggestions for the mural. Some ideas were a memorial remembering Dave (a little concern regarding that), anything of a historical nature specifically the railroad history and also fitness related items. They also talked about the time capsule project with the benches and researching the stories behind them.

There has been correspondence from MHS CARE group who are looking for some community service hours. At least 10 students have confirmed they will be helping at the fall clean up.

Pat received a phone call from Ann-Marie asking about a potential 5k on the trail. Pat left a return message stating that the caller should get in touch with Town Hall regarding any special permits that may be needed.

Pat connected with Jacob Cassinelli and she got some of Dave's files, related to the bench and adopt-a-trail programs. She will be looking through and sharing bench related files with Tom Myatt, who has volunteered to oversee that program.

Pat has the leaf blower and t-shirts for the fall clean-up promo. Pat is compiling a complete listing of all Friends items, along with who is storing them (maps, bollard key, documents, etc).

Pat received a phone call from the Cassinelli family and they were looking for the list of donors for Dave's bench in order to thank them.

Secretary update: Members currently at 66.

Update presented by Tom Myatt, Treasurer: Tom presented the Treasurer Report for 01/01/2013 - 09/30/2013. There has been \$7049.85 in income so far this year. We have received \$1955 donation for Dave's bench.

There has been \$3953.59 in expenses for the year so far which gives a net change of \$3096.26. There is currently \$18,384.31 in the bank.

\$5,545.31 has been authorized for spending which leaves \$12,839.00 in available funds.

Update Presented by Nancy Wojick, M&E Committee Chair: After walking the trail during the past week, Nancy reported that the trail looks good. CVS portion is loaded with graffiti and there is also a piece of fence missing. Otherwise it is clean, there is not much litter. There are some dead trees but they should be removed by Parks Dept by the end of the week. The girl scouts troop came out to clean the butterfly garden so it looks nice. The Consigli construction will be doing clean up on the 25th.

Update from Social networking committee:

Pat presented update from Mike Morrison who was unable to attend the meeting. She read an email he wrote to her. Excerpts from his email are below:

"The plan that Liz (of Milford TV) and I have put together is to start small with a promo video clip for the new show; film a promo clip for the fall cleanup, which would double as another promo for the upcoming show; and dive into the first episode. Starting this way allows me to get used to the process of TV production, helps Liz understand what we're trying to accomplish, lets us develop more ideas for the TV show, and builds anticipation for the show's premier. I've decided to call the show "Trail Talk".

TV show promo clip: this video is largely complete. The last thing to do is to set it to music, which Liz will do this week. I won't be able to review it until Friday at the earliest, but it should be ready to air soon, perhaps even by this weekend. The pace of this project has been a bit slow by TV production standards. That's largely due to the volunteer nature of the project. Liz is excited about this project, but it is one or many projects on her plate at the TV station, and it's not always the top priority.

Fall cleanup promo clip: this video is scheduled to be shot on location on the trail near Fino Field, 10 AM, Saturday, October 5. Exact location on the trail TBD Friday or at the latest early Sat. morning depending on the fall foliage conditions in the area. I have asked Pat for the use of the Friends' leaf blower for the shoot. I've also asked to use the Friends' t-shirts for two things: for people to wear during the fall cleanup promo shoot, and to use as a signature element of the TV show. Basically, I (as host) would wear one of the t-shirts whenever filming material for the show.

First episode: still in the conceptual stage as of 9/30. I've gotten the impression that people would most like to know about phase III and when the trail would be complete. To that end the first episode will likely feature content about the phase III trail, interviews with people involved in the trail, maps, scheduled completion date, and pics/videos of the trail construction. As the project will probably extend into 2014, we'll revisit this in a future episode, possibly spring 2014, when we will probably see more activity."

New Business:

Motion: Tom makes a motion to allocate an additional \$500 for the website, seconded, passed unanimously.

Motion: Tom makes a motion to allocate another \$100 for admin supplies, seconded, passed unanimously.

Motion: Move to close the #13-12 spending authorization for Josh Poirer, as planned trail video work was not able to be completed, authorization closed.

Motion: Pat made a motion to expend up to \$400 for the purchase of a new leaf blower, face shield, ear muffs, \$400 authorization, seconded, passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Reno made contact with Paul Braza regarding the trail maintenance management at his meeting. He hadn't heard anything from Paul so he emailed him again. He requested Reno to come to the next Parks Commission meeting. He hasn't received confirmation regarding when the next meeting is. He doesn't have any comments from them regarding the proposal. His main goal for this proposal is to hold the parks commission responsible for maintenance issues regarding the trail. Reno is requesting any updates from the Friends regarding his proposal. Pats comments were the addition of Mileage Markers (1/4 mile designations & station markers), pavement repairs (sinkholes, frost heaves), add 'at major trailheads' to weeding, mulching & watering landscaped areas & add 'incl Road Crossing Vegetation' to brush control item.

Bill proposed having more markers along the trail in order to pinpoint locations of any maintenance issues or for people to use as reference when they are along the trail.

Discussion about the Trail Maintenance Log: maybe add a section to the log that indicates who has made the comment. Also, maybe add pictures along with the log so those responsible for fixing can see what the issue is.

Nancy: there are certain areas that are vulnerable for vandalism and thinks that it is a good idea to look into getting cameras. Police should be involved in the discussion to get some guidance.

Next meeting is Nov 5th at 7pm at Milford Senior Center on 60 No Bow St

Motion for the meeting to adjourn at 8:55pm, passed unanimously.