



Simon Kenton Pathfinders

Minutes from Membership Meeting at Urbana Depot

Thursday, January 6, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.

The monthly meeting was called to order by President Jim Cook at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance: Tamisha Matus, Nikki Sizemore, Dave Martin, Ward Lutz, Dave Chivington, Carmen Scott, Teresa Cook, Rebecca Marker-Smith, Andy Smith, Dorothy Case, Donna Gainer, Doug Crabill, Dave W. Jensen, Lonnie Jensen, Tony Crabill, Jim Cook, Janine Albert Evans, Cecelia Lokai-Minnich, Jeff Burroughs, and Dianne Burroughs.

Additions/Corrections to the Agenda: Jim Cook requested that we add “Updates to Trail Counts” to section 6H and “Election Results” to section 6I (after “Action Items”). The motion was made to accept the agenda as corrected by Dave Jensen, Dorothy Case seconded it, and it passed unanimously.

Announcements:

a. Volunteers of the Year: Dianne Burroughs and Rick Bednarki

Jim referred to the announcement in our January newsletter, stating that Dianne was very involved in making the 2021 bike tour a success and that Rick was responsible for clearing downed trees and brush, and mowing and trimming along the north trail during 2021. Both received lovely framed plaques. In addition, our “First Lady” received a plaque for her patience and support of our president throughout the year. Jim personally thanked all the board members for their hard work this past year, especially in the running of our bike tour.

b. St. Paris Trail: No one was present to give an update.

c. West Liberty Trail Head: Jim reported that Mary Rutan Hospital will be presenting a \$4000 check on Wednesday, January 12 to West Liberty administrators to support their improvement plans at Ricketts Park.

Report of Nominations Committee and Voting for 2022 Officers:

a. Carmen Scott presented the nominating committee’s slate of possible candidates as follows:

President – Jim Cook,

Vice President – Doug Crabill and Nancy Lokai-Baldwin

Secretary – Dianne Burroughs

Treasurer – Janine Albert Evans

Board Member at Large (3-year term) - Dorothy Case and Cecelia Lokai-Minnich

Jim asked for any nominations from the floor, but none were made. A motion was made by Ward Lutz to close nominations, it was seconded by Dave Jensen, and it passed unanimously. Ballots were distributed, members voted, and the ballots were returned to the nominating committee for tallying. The results will be announced later in the meeting.

Reports:

President: No report was given by Jim Cook.

Secretary: Doug Crabill provided the minutes for the November 4th meeting, substituting for the ailing secretary (Thank-you!) Ward Lutz asked that last month's minutes be corrected to show under "Trail Counts" that the counter just north of the Depot should be relocated to just "South" not "North" of State Route 296. A motion was made to accept the minutes as corrected, it was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer: Janine reported that our Operating Account currently stands at \$58,062.62, our Northern Extension Account at \$19,291.40, and our Future Maintenance account at \$108,983.57. Our January-December 2021 total income was \$49,752.12, total expenses \$35,124.52 (of which \$30,963.89 were trail expenses), net fundraising was \$12,026.90, and net income \$26,644.50. A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report as given, it was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Website: Tony reported that the website has updated membership information.

Facebook: Jim had nothing new to report.

Membership: Nancy Lokai-Baldwin was absent, but Jim reported that our newsletter with membership cards were mailed last month to 240 addresses, including to bike tour donors and local elected officials.

Maintenance:

- a. **North Trail** - Doug Chivington reported that all of the sinkholes have been repaired, but one of them has redeveloped. The North trail has seven (7) maintenance volunteers, including a recent one, Scott Steiner. Doug reminded us that Pat Dodd was an under-the-radar volunteer, donor, and maintenance worker. His son-in-law, Scott Steiner, has donated \$1000 in Pat's honor for the purchase of a bench with a concrete pad to be put at the Melvin Miller Park's golf course (the bench already there will be moved to the Bellefontaine trail head).
- b. **Urbana City Trails:** Dave Jensen reported that the tree of heaven tree that had fallen on the trail has been removed.
- c. **South Trail:** Ward reported that the trail needs to be blown, and he suggested that the port-o-john at County Line Road should be maintained year-round, due to high trail activity there.
- d. **All trails other scheduled maintenance for Winter:** Jim reported that the city of Urbana prefers to do their limb beaver work in the Winter, when the clean-up is easier and the trail less used, and it is on their To Do list. Also on their list, spraying for invasive honeysuckle in the Spring.
- e. **Depot area:** Jim reported that several burnt-out light bulbs in the Depot and outdoor flood light bulbs were replaced, greatly improving the lighting situation. The city, per Superior Painting and Restoration, will clean and paint the building's soffits by this Spring. Next to be done is tuck pointing the masonry. The normal maintenance on the furnace and electrical were done.
- f. **Trail Count Update:** Ward provided the board with the 2019-2021 trail count summary. Two new counters have been ordered. Data might be needed from Melvin Miller Park to the YMCA, according to Doug Crabill, as there is a proposed subdivision behind Walmart in the works. Data from County Line Road has been trending down inexplicably over the last six months. He suggested we move the counter from north of 296 to south of it.

Action Items: None were presented.

Election Results: Carmen Scott, for the nominating committee, announced the following results:

President: Jim Cook

Vice President: Doug Crabill

Secretary: Dianne Burroughs

Treasurer: Janine Albert Evans

Board Member at Large (3-year term): Dorothy Case

A motion was made by Dave Jensen for Carmen to destroy the ballots; it was seconded by Donna Gaines, and it passed unanimously.

New Business: None were presented.

Old Business: Jim reported that the ODNR grant, that we would use to buy a commercial blower for \$10-12,000 on a 50/50 deal, was still on hold!

Open Forum: Jim questioned all on our thoughts regarding the necessity of holding our meetings virtually due to the continued spread of the Covid-19 omicron virus. Tamisha shared her experience in Union County, where 9000 tests were given out in just two days. We decided to review the situation as needed.

Jim asked that the board remain after the meeting.

Adjournment: The motion to adjourn as made by Dave Jensen, Dorothy Case seconded it, and it passed unanimously at 7:48 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. (at the Depot?)

Respectfully submitted by Dianne Burroughs, Secretary