



Simon Kenton Pathfinders



Minutes from Membership Meeting at Urbana Depot

Thursday, April 7, 2022 @7:00 p.m.

The monthly meeting was called to order by President Jim Cook at 7:04 p.m.

Attendance: Steve Cayot, Dave Martin, Carmen Scott, Ward Lutz, Doug Crabill, Janine Albert Evans, Nancy Lokai-Baldwin, Teresa Cook, Jim Cook, and Dianne Burroughs.

Additions/Corrections to the Agenda: A motion was made by Ward Lutz to accept the updated agenda as presented at the meeting, it was seconded by Carmen Scott, and it passed unanimously.

Announcements:

- a. **St. Paris trail update:** St. Paris submitted a grant proposal to the state for a trail running from the Miami County line to Urbana. If awarded, the state would neither own it or maintain it.
- b. **West Liberty trail head/Ricketts Park update:** Groundbreaking was done on the shelter house, and all plans should be completed in the next month.
- c. **Upcoming June 4th event on the trail:** Naomi's Heart Mission (a non-SKP event)
- d. **Tecumseh Trail Blazers event on April 2 report:** (a non-SKP event) Around 50 people participated and good comments were made re: the trail.
- e. **Young's Dairy Ride on September 10th:** (a non-SKP event) This ride used to happen in July, but now its being held the day before our bike tour! Organizers didn't ask Susan or SKP in advance of their publicity, and they have not given a donation to the Little Miami trail or SKP for their use of our trails. So far, they haven't returned our phone calls.
- f. **Board of Directors meeting:** Tonight, after adjournment for 5-10 minutes.

Reports:

- a. **President:** none
- b. **Secretary:** A motion was made by Doug Crabill to accept the March 2022 minutes as presented, it was seconded by Janine Albert Evans, and it passed unanimously.
- c. **Treasurer:** Our Operating Account balance is \$57,493.25 and the Northern Extension Account balance is \$19,291.99. Janine shared with us that contributions were a bit behind but building rental payments and trail expenses were ahead of last year, so it should balance out by year end. The motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Nancy Lokai-Baldwin, it was seconded by Ward Lutz, and it passed unanimously.
- d. **Website:** Doug reported that our website domain has been renewed for another year. Doug and Tony have donated that expense again for 2022. Our Save the Date flyer was posted there prominently.
- e. **Facebook:** Bike Tour event was set-up and our Save the Date flyer was posted.
- f. **Membership:** none
- g. **Maintenance:**
 1. **North Trail:** Three major holes were repaired. Carmen noted that the Game and Wildlife Officer

- was unsure as to whether the holes were from critters versus the ground sinking underneath. Carmen may try trapping the critters but will contact the Port Authority for permission first.
- A new sign at the Carter Avenue trailhead in Bellefontaine was donated and installed. We ordered eight (8) new SKP car magnets.
2. **Urbana City Trails:** Vandalism and profanity were written on the city murals, which were painted over by a volunteer. Mindy Parker and Nikki Sizemore plan to redesign the murals this Spring/Summer with her students.
 3. **South Trail:** none
 4. **Depot Area:**
 - A. Flower Pots Committee: We're still in the planning stages.
 - B. Repairs: A bad water leak was discovered in the basement, and the bathroom water heater has not been working all winter. Fetz has been in to inspect it and will give us a quote. These issues may be our responsibility. The city now has the capability to notify businesses when their water usage changes drastically.
 - h. **Champaign County Commissioners presentation:** A video presentation was made this morning by Doug Crabill, Doug Chivington, Carmen Scott, and Jim Cook requesting the city to provide a porta john at our County Line Road parking lot. Their decision should be reached by Thursday of next week. Mr. Clean has offered us a discounted winter rate of \$88/month (Nov-Mar) and \$99/month (Apr-Oct), with four clean-outs a month. It is very needed.

Action Items: none

New Business:

- a. **West Liberty Fire Sales Event (May 21):** We were asked if we'd like to host an event at Sherman Ricketts Park. This is a garage sale-type event and a big deal in town. Our trailhead, though, is in a quiet, out-of-the-way area of this event, so we declined this offer.
- b. **Champaign County Leadership Academy (April 21):** "Quality of Life Day"
Businesses are doing 30-minute presentations at the Champaign County Library, the CC Youth Center, and the Urbana Airport. Doug Crabill and Jim Cook volunteered to make a presentation about SKP from 11:30-12:00.

Old Business:

- a. **Blower Grant update:** ODNr has not made a decision yet, but state employees will be returning to their offices at the end of April, so it IS still under consideration. This blower is very needed, so we will have to buy one, if necessary.
- b. **Seal Coat Project update:** New information is not available. We are still gathering information and estimates for this 2023 project.
- c. **Cleanup Trail Day report:** On April 2nd we had 18 volunteers collect 2-½ pick-up truck loads of trash from our trails! The Gwynne Street bridge has a homeless camp, but that is a city responsibility. Jim spoke to the city and they will have police officers on bikes patrolling the trail.
- d. **SKP Bike Tour 2022 (Sunday, September 11th):**
 1. "Save the Date" flyers and posters were distributed to members for distribution.
 2. Updates and next steps:

- a. Linda Thackery is designing our registration flyer.
- b. The sponsor letter is ready for board approval.
- c. The Bike Tour Committee will be meeting next week (maybe Monday the 25th).
- d. Route: The county is still deciding on their road work plans for the western portion of the county, so no route maps can be created at this time.
- e. The SKP Board will meet next week to make necessary approvals.
 - e. **Celebrate Trails Day (April 23 9-1:00):** Nancy Lokai-Baldwin is organizing volunteers for this event. She'll need our picture frame, bottled water, maps, membership forms, and bike helmets (24). We won a grant from Pediatric Association for 36 bike helmets, but we won't be receiving them until the week of April 25.

Open Forum:

- a. Doug reported that the city wrote an ODOT grant for RRFB (Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon) signs and enhanced markings to improve crossings on Miami and North Main Streets. A new sign at the Hickory Grove crossing would improve safety greatly if it were the motion-activated type, instead of push-button.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Lokai-Baldwin at 8:21, it was seconded by Teresa Cook, and it passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. at the Depot

Respectfully submitted by Dianne Burroughs, Secretary