



## Simon Kenton Pathfinders



### Minutes from Membership Meeting at Urbana Depot Thursday, July 7, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.

The monthly meeting was called to order by President Jim Cook at 7:03 p.m.

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

**Additions/Correction to the Agenda:** A motion to make a new entry under Reports, "Trail Data," the new 5g and to add "Officer Election" to New Business, 7a, was made by Ward Lutz, seconded by Dave Case, and it passed unanimously.

**Announcements:**

- a. Re-painting of murals @ Gwynne Street Bridge: Nikki Sizemore and her Urbana high school students have done most of the painting of this mural. They have created a picture of the B-25 "Champaign Gal."
- b. West Liberty Trailhead/Ricketts Park update: The dedication of this park and bike path trail head was on June 29. Various neighborhood police vehicles paraded, and an illuminated bike rodeo took place. All of the work on the shelter is not done yet, such as the interior walls and electric; but they have done a wonderful job with the park! Our bike repair station is up and operational.
- c. St. Paris Trail update: Their next step is to attend a county commissioner's meeting.

**Reports:**

- a. **President:** none
- b. **Secretary:** A motion was made by Carmen Scott to accept the June minutes as presented. It was seconded by Dorothy Case, and it passed unanimously.
- c. **Treasurer:** A motion was made by Doug Crabill to accept the Treasurer's report entitled "2022 Budget vs YTD Actual Profit Loss." It was seconded by Ward Lutz, and it passed unanimously. Janine noted that a \$1000 limb beaver bill just came in and this info is not in the report. A question arose over what work is included in "Trail Amenities," and Janine explained that this includes Depot rent and repairs, benches and signs.
- d. **Website:** A link to our bike tour was put on top where it's easy to spot.
- e. **Facebook:** Jim reported that our bike tour info and pictures were posted and sent to other bike groups on Facebook.
- f. **Membership Committee:** none
- g. **Trail Data:** Ward Lutz shared a report showing data for the 8 counters deployed on the SK trail from County Line Road to Carter Avenue at Bellefontaine from the original positioning of that counter through June 2022. There are gaps in the date for unknown and for known reasons (such as failed batteries and sensitive counters). This data set is beginning to reveal patterns of trail use. These counters cost \$550, and we wanted to keep a spare counter available, with the

ability to use it some day at the YMCA trailhead. Jim will ask the city to buy one for this location.

**h. Maintenance Committee updates:**

1. **North Trail:** Pat Dodds' bench has been installed, and the bench that was at that location is going to be put at the Carter Avenue trailhead. That trailhead sign needs professional painting. The trail from West Liberty to Bellefontaine had @10 trees down recently, but a dedicated group of our volunteers did a fantastic job cleaning it up: thanks to Mark, Steve, Rick and Zack Bednarski. Gary Comer of ODNR looked at our critter problem and advised us that the chipmunk damage can't be avoided; that we need to just stay ahead of it. Logan County's spraying for wild hemlock was delayed due to rain.
2. **Urbana City:** The United Methodist Church had @30 people cleaning the trail on June 5, and they are working on plans to help the homeless. Orbis Corporation has adopted the trail from Maimi Street to Edgewood Avenue with plans to clean up debris every two weeks. Jim has ordered six 12'x16' Adopt-a-Trail signs for a cost of \$411. We have issues with paint vandalism and vandals ripping boards off the bridge and throwing them down on cyclists. Ward, Dave, and Jim have been calling the city about replacing these rotting boards, and we may need to contact the railroad, too.
3. **South Trail:** The Kris Burroughs-Sanders memorial bench has been ordered and it will be put between Hickory Grove and Woodburn Roads. Kris's sons are contractors and will be doing the concrete work. Jim will check with the county regarding placement on their land. The dedication is scheduled for November 11.
4. **Depot Area:** The flower pots are looking great!

**Action Items:** none

**New Business:**

- a. **Election of Officers:** We need to reach out to our membership for candidates, and it is recommended that we should always be pushing for our replacements. Seats up next year are for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one Board Member. We were reminded that Jim and Janine are not running again.

**Old Business:**

- a. **ODNR Blower Grant update:** We did not get this grant, so Jim has started contacting a supplier to get a reconditioned one or one at cost.
- b. **Seal Coating of Trail update:** This project would cost us @\$200,000, and the company that does this work, Strasser, is not doing it anymore. One alternative idea is to coat the trail with Biorestore, which would cost under \$7,000 but is smelly and slick (therefore dangerous to cyclists). It was suggested that we experiment with it for just the trail from Melvin Miller Park to the YMCA.
- c. **2022 Bike Tour (Sunday, September 11):**
  1. We have received \$16,900 in sponsorships. Our registration through Runsignup will have personal rider data hidden this year, and we have passed all fees on to registrants. Doug, Janine, and Jim will be administrators of our registrations.
  2. Registration brochures are printed and everyone is encouraged to take a bunch for

distribution.

3. Projected route: The county engineer has shared their plans for chip seal work and it should not affect our planned routes. Our ½ metric route will head west to St. Paris's Harmon Park, On the Cardinal Trail to West Liberty, and then the Depot. The metric route will add a loop into Logan County or to Miami County's new trail with a sag stop at Garbry Woods. The 15-mile family/kids ride is solely on our trail.
4. Still needed: Dave and Dorothy Case volunteered to prepare the gift bags that are handed to riders at registration (t-shirt, food coupon, etc.). Tamisha will size kids for new helmets, if we can trade some of our larger helmets with another group.  
Nancy volunteered to purchase the sag food and to help call/find volunteers.  
This year check-in will be totally computerized.

**Open Forum:**

- a. Train Trip on September 10: There will be a shuttle bus to take riders downtown to where food trucks and shopping are available. They expect @350 riders.

**Adjournment:** President Jim Cook adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Depot.**

Respectfully submitted by Dianne Burroughs, Secretary