



**Simon Kenton Pathfinders**  
**Minutes from Membership Meeting @ Urbana Depot**  
**Thursday, August 3, 2023 @7:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Cook at 7:07 p.m.

**Attendance:** Dorothy Case, Doug Crabill, Tamisha Matus, Jill McKelvey, Jayne Griffith, Lloyd Manchester, Bonnie Manchester, Ward Lutz, Gary Bradshaw, D. W. Jensen, Jim Spain, Teresa Cook, Carmen Scott, Rob Dwyer, Jim Cook, and Dianne Burroughs.

**Additions/Corrections to the Agenda:** The motion to accept the agenda as presented was made by Dave Jensen, seconded by Tamisha Matus, and it passed unanimously.

**Announcements:**

Jim Cook reminded the board that there will be a brief board meeting immediately following the membership meeting.

The Logan County Chamber of Commerce invited the Pathfinders to join their solar eclipse event, called “Moonshade Festival”, running from April 5-8, 2024. West Liberty Mayor Jill McKelvey shared their plans with us. A \$15 single pass/\$50 family pass includes a great spot to view the eclipse (without light pollution), solar eclipse glasses, access to all events, discounts at local businesses, a schedule of events with a map, and trolley rides all weekend. Based on past experiences with towns in the totality, local populations could triple or quadruple, and traffic jams could be an issue. Schools in both counties will be closed on April 8, and emergency management planning is being discussed in Urbana and West Liberty. Their proposal is for the Pathfinders to host a mini marathon or 5K run through the village and on the bike path on Sunday, April 7. Dave Jensen volunteered to represent us, suggesting we name it the “Sun Hide Ride.” Our decision to participate is needed by October 1.

**Reports:**

**President:** No report was presented.

**Secretary:** The motion to accept the July 6 minutes as presented was made by Dorothy Case, seconded by Dave Jensen, and it passed unanimously.

**Treasurer:** The motion to accept the June financial reports was made by Ward Lutz, seconded by Lloyd Manchester, and it passed unanimously. Rob Dwyer explained how RunSignUp sends money weekly to our account. We have two bike lockers that are rented out, but no payments are being made; they need to be invoiced.

**Website:** Doug Crabill said this has been updated.

**Facebook:** Tamisha Matus asked that we invite people to share our posts on Facebook. We’ve had many hits re: the bike tour, into the 1000’s. Jim sent a paid ad targeting young bikers.

**Membership:** No report was available.

**Maintenance Committee:**

**North Trail:** Carmen Scott updated us on the Eagle Scout project that is 160' north of Rt. 249. The area next to the golf course is being cleared out to pour a concrete pad and build picnic tables.

Nikki Sizemore, two adults, and their girl scout troop last night painted over the vandalism/graffiti on the township bridge at Rt. 30 – thank-you!

Invasive species spraying was done by Logan County on the west side of the trail, and the railroad may have done it on the east side.

**Urbana City Trails:** Miami Street curbs and gutters have been done. The side street projects are next. The repaving and striping are planned for completion by early September.

The Urbana United Methodist Church completed their annual trail clean-up on July 30 – thank-you!

Mike Conley of Class Act Lawn Care in St. Paris volunteered to mow at the Depot for free this season – thank-you!

Nikki Sizemore and her Urbana High students painted over the graffiti under the bridges, and it still looks good.

The city needs to put in our signposts at the YMCA trailhead; they are waiting for a machine repair.

**South Trail:** Dave and Dorothy Case finished with the mowing in July. Brian Newman will be doing the mowing in August and September, and maybe training Lloyd Manchester.

Ward Lutz reported that the trail counter at Boggles Run (north of Hickory Grove Road) was recently destroyed. The cost to replace it is \$500. We need to think about whether to replace these counters re: the cost and the lack of availability of them.

Jim Cook reported many compliments from bikers regarding how clean and well-maintained our trails are.

The boom mowing on the South Trail has been done, 6-8' on each side. It will be done again before our next bike tour.

The Ventrac is costing us a lot of money to keep it running. By the end of the year, we need a plan to replace it.

**Depot area:**

Deer are eating some of the flowers in our flowerboxes, but they still look beautiful.

The Depot's parking lot has been repaved and parking spaces marked.

**Bike Tour Updates:** Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>

We need volunteers to help with the set-up on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup>. To date, our sponsorships are at \$15,575 with an additional \$10,000 anonymous donation that was not specified for the tour. Last year our final sponsorships amounted to \$26,955.

We currently have 65 registrations, compared to 90 at this time last year and 167 by the tour date. Many new riders have signed up, and many more riders wait until the last two weeks to register.

Routes: Our 15-mile route is the same as last year. The plan for our 30-mile route is to go down the South Trail and through Clark County. Our 60-mile "Castles and Caverns" route goes north to Logan County after doing the 30-mile portion. This saves us by reducing the number of necessary SAG stops. We are still waiting to hear from the county engineer about road closings.

Food will be provided by Fresh Harvest Food Truck, La Granja Mexican Food Truck, and the Depot Coffeehouse.

Dave and Dorothy Case volunteered to put together all of the biker packets.

**Action Items:** none

**New Business:** none

**Old Business:**

A Schwinn Super Sport bike was donated to the Pathfinders by the family of Barry Nisonger as a fundraiser item. It has recently been put on display in the Depot's lobby. Tickets are one for \$5.00 and three for \$10. The drawing will be held on September 10 at 2:00 p.m. at the Depot (winners need not be present to win). This information has been shared on our Facebook page since July 24. Dianne Burroughs asked that members share this post and help sell tickets.

**Open Forum:**

Donna Gainer was thanked for volunteering the use of her land and the shelter at County Line Road and all of the work she puts into maintaining it.

Doug Crabill reminded us that the 25-year lease with the city of Urbana and the West Central Ohio Port Authority is up for renewal.

**Adjournment:** The motion to adjourn was made at 8:21 p.m. by Tamisha Matus, seconded by Jim Spain, and it passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, September 7, 2023 @7:00 p.m. at the Depot.**

Respectfully submitted by Dianne Burroughs, Secretary