

Friends Of The Border To Border Trail Board Meeting Agenda – Tuesday, February 23, 2016
, 7pm
Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue, Ypsilanti – Main Floor Meeting Room
Agenda

1. Call to order/Introductions/Public input Call to order 7:07 PM
 - a. In Attendance: Bob Krezwinski, Laura Shiltz, Ashley Fox, Tom Leone, Ryan Bowles, Eric Boyd
2. General business
 - a. Agenda approval Laura motion, Tom second, approved
 - b. Minutes approval – December Tom motion, Laura second, approved
 - c. Treasury report
 - c.i. Tom presented treasurer's report (See Treasurer's Report)
 - c.ii. Bob received \$1000 from Running Fit for the Dexter Holiday Hustle
 - c.iii. Discussion that present financial gifts are putting us in a position to pursue some projects that we have been hoping to pursue.
 - d. Membership report
 - d.i. Several new members added. Laura will be handling communication with new members taking over part of these duties from Tom.
3. Update – B to B current projects-
 - a. Bob met with Coy Vaughn and Peter Sanderson (Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation), Beth Ernat (Econ. Dev. Director) and Bonnie Wessler discussed the Frog Island Park through the Rice Street and the parking lot.
 - b. Curb Cut on Grove Rd. considered of significant importance. This may be an area where Friends funds may be useful in creating this curb cut.
 - b.i. Ashley will follow up with Beth Ernat this week.
4. Current project updates
 - a. Web page- Bob offered to share administrative privileges for the webpage. Ryan & Laura shared interest in helping with this.
 - b. Friends flyer
 - b.i. Came to a consensus on a design that we liked. Laura agreed to pursue the changes with the design and will contact a local printer to pursue printing 500. This would be about \$85.
 - c. Newsletter
 - c.i. This will be sent out April 1 by Bob.
 - c.ii. Ryan offered to proofread.
 - d. Adopt A Trail sections
 - d.i. All Adoptees reconfirmed adoption.
 - e. Stenciling we should have by April.
5. Old business
 - a. Trail/Friends events
 - a.i. Discussed being present at Earth Day at WCC. Also, discussing the weekend stands at popular locations on the trail.
 - a.ii. First Saturday of June would be a good day for a trail ride if we have insurance.
 - a.iii. Arbor Brewing Company interested in doing a Brewery to Brewery ride.

- b. Non-profit status - 501(c)3
 - b.i. Tom recommends the S21 designation. Ryan motions, Laura second, unanimously carried
 - c. Friends insurance
 - c.i. Discussion of Insurance for clubs and non-profits. Particular interest in the Directors & Officers Liability coverage. Ryan emphasized the importance of having this sooner rather than later. Bob will contact McKay and State Farm to compare policies.
 - d. Snow removal on Trail
 - d.i. Discussion over accessibility with snow removal at WCC and Heartland Nursing Facility and Dixboro Road Bridge. There is also the possibility of pursuing the ADA compliance issue.
 - e. 2016 priorities
 - e.i. Crowdfunding- Ashley shared that when considering a larger project that we should look into www.patronicity.com
- 6. New Business
 - a. Proposed by-laws changes (see box below)
 - a.i. Ryan moved to amend the bylaws as proposed in the meeting agenda, Tom seconded, and unanimous approval of the board in attendance (Tom, Ryan, Laura, Ashley, and Bob).
 - b. Washtenaw County Parks Greenways meeting – 1/28, 3/24
 - c. Allen Creek Greenway (Eric Boyd)
 - c.i. City council approved hiring the Smith Group to make make the Master Plan
 - c.ii. Technical Committee Citizen Advisory Committee, and General Stakeholders Committee
 - c.iii. Citizen’s Advisory Comm will meet 6 times. He will try to get us feedback as they move through the process at each step May 4, September 14, & January 11 Planning/Public Input
 - c.iv. By the end of 2017, they will have a master plan and public input
 - c.v. Then, they are hoping to gather NRTF funding.
 - d. Green Oak Township (Eric Boyd)—Not discussed
- 7. Annual membership – Rails To Trails Conservancy Discussed Annual Membership in the National Rails to Trails and group
 - a. Tom moved to donate \$25, seconded by Laura, passed unanimously.
- 8. Meeting locations (Ypsi Downtown library, Whitaker Road library, Wheels in Motion, REI, Dexter Library, Ann Arbor West Branch)
 - a. Discussed moving the board meetings and alternating locations for meetings to encourage broader involvement. Looking at REI for next meeting.
- 9. Next meeting & location
 - a. Proposed next meeting Wednesday, April 13 at REI
 - b. Possible Annual Meeting at REI on Wednesday, November 16
- 10. Adjournment
 - a. Ashley motion to adjourn, Laura seconded.

Proposed replacement for Section 2.7:

2.7 Membership Period. Friends Of The Border To Border Trail memberships are based on a 12-month membership year starting when a membership fee is paid.

- Proposed replacement for Section 4.8:

4.8 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be in charge of the receipt and tracking of all funds of the Friends of The Border To Border Trail. The Treasurer shall maintain correct and complete financial records, and shall present an updated financial report at each meeting of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall not have the ability to write checks or otherwise disburse funds. After the Friends Of The Border To Border Trail achieves 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, the Treasurer shall submit an annual information return in accordance with IRS requirements. The annual information returns shall be available for public inspection for at least three years after the filing date.

- Proposed new section 4.10:

4.10 Allowable activities. All officers are responsible for ensuring that activities of the Friends Of The Border To Border Trail are consistent with federal 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. The organization must absolutely refrain from participating in the political campaigns of candidates for local, state, or federal office; any lobbying activities must be restricted to an insubstantial part of total activities; and earnings must not inure to the benefit of any private individual.

Friends Of The B2B – Possible 2016 Priorities

1. Paid membership growth
2. Recruit volunteers for projects
3. Trail signage and pavement stenciling improvements
4. Trail section adoption
5. Increase Trail recognition and use campaign
6. 501(c)3 non-profit status
 - Obtaining non-profit status
 - Using status to solicit major donations for Trail construction
7. Compiling projects for possible grants/crowdsourcing
8. Friends events – i.e. Trail walks, bicycle rides
9. Events where the Friends participate
 - National Trails Day – 1st Saturday of June
 - Ann Arbor Green Fair – June
 - Huron River Day – July
 - Ypsilanti Heritage Festival – August
 - Michigan Trails Week - September
10. Trail gap conceptual plans
 - Ypsilanti Township – Bridge Road east to County line
 - City of Ypsilanti – Grove Road south to Ypsilanti Township
 - City of Ypsilanti – Frog Island Park to Eastern Michigan University
 - Eastern Michigan University – Cornell Street on road segment to off-road
11. Runner gravel paths next to hard-surface trail