

Friends Of The Border To Border Trail - Meeting Minutes

Annual Membership Meeting - November 13, 2018

Ann Arbor REI store Community Room, 970 West Eisenhower Parkway in Ann Arbor.

1. Call to order - The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Bob Krzewinski.
2. Friends Of The Border To Border Trail – Overview
 - a. Bob did an introduction of the Friends of the Border To Border (B2B) Trail and previewed the agenda for the evening. He noted that the Friends is “Dedicated to completing, enhancing, and advocating for the use of the Border-to-Border Trail”. The Friends are installing 6-7 bicycle repair stands along the length of the Trail due to a \$10,000 grant from REI. We host volunteers for an Adopt-a-Trail program, outreach events (throughout the year at various festivals/parks events), and fill positions on the Friends Board of Directors. We endorsed and promoted the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission millage for November 6. There will be a walk on Water Street B2B Trail in Ypsilanti later in November. The Friends also works closely with HWPI for the Oberun run event each summer to raise funds for Trail construction. .
3. Program – *“What’s New With The B2B Trail”* – Peter Sanderson of the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission (WCP&RC).
 - a. Peter was glad to show new construction photos as this is a sign the Trail is moving ahead.
 - b. 49 miles are planned on the B2B with 26 miles constructed. 2.6 miles constructed this year north of Chelsea.
 - c. Building 1.2 miles on Phase 2 from Dexter-Huron Metropark to Zeeb Rd. with 2 bridges across the Huron River. Starting construction this winter and hopefully finished by September 2019. The bids came in \$100K under budget. There was also a great leverage using local money to obtain grants.
 - d. Phase 1: Dexter-Chelsea Connector 2.1 miles heading east from Chelsea on an old railbed. Construction has started already and will be finished in the summer of 2019. WCP&RC is working with Chelsea to find a route to connect Dexter-Chelsea Road with the B2B section to the north of town parallel to M-52.
 - e. Chelsea-Lakelands Connector Phase #2 - 2.0 miles moving further north from this year’s construction. will connect Waterloo Recreation area and Pinckney Recreation area. This will follow an old section of M-52. The tunnel crossing under M-52 is a private fundraising effort and will connect the Iron Belle Trail, B2B, and Waterloo-Pinckney Trail.
 - f. A new B2B trailhead is being built adjacent to M-52 in Lyndon Township. There will be 50 parking spots, seasonal toilets, repair stand, water, and connection to trails for disabled hunters.
 - g. Hopes for even completing Phase 3 that goes 3.1 miles further northwest from Phase 2 to Washtenaw/Jackson County Line.
 - h. DNR received funds to construct 11 miles for a crushed limestone trail from Stockbridge to Jackson on the Lakelands Trail (shared with equestrian).
 - i. 2020- Phase 3- Dexter to Ann Arbor from Zeeb to Delhi 1.8 miles. 1 new bridge.

- j. 2020-2021- Next problem to figure out is Phase 4 Barton Nature Preserve .6 miles- Need to update feasibility study going through M-14, Main St., and railroad, then through Barton Nature Preserve. Public engagement to come soon.
 - k. Phase 3- Dexter-Chelsea Connector 1.8 miles.
 - l. Phase 4-Dexter-Ann Arbor Connector 1.0 mile Delhi to Wagner with 1 new bridge, difficult crossing of the railroad.
 - m. Ypsilanti/Wayne County Connector- 1.1 miles with 5.0 miles to connect to the Lower Huron MetroPark with most to be done by Wayne County. As this is mainly in Wayne County, much of this will be up to them, but it is up to WCPRC and non-profits to have these trails meet up well. Public input for this should be coming up soon.
 - n. EMU Campus re-route 1.0 mile.
 - o. 2021- Hopes to create Barton-Bandemer Tunnel.
 - p. Plans for gaps in Ypsilanti - 2019-20 Frog Island & Grove Rd. hope to be completed in 2019 or 2020, Needs to be public input to Ypsilanti City Council.
 - q. 2021- Two significant gaps- one from Chelsea-Dexter and Dexter-Ann Arbor will remain with hopes to finish in 2021 or soon after.
 - r. 2020-2021 2.5-3.5 Miles Lakelands Connector- From Hudson Mills Metropark north to the Lakeland Trail.
 - s. 2020-2025 The "Loop" Northwest Passage expected to be complete.
4. Huron-Waterloo Pathways Initiative (HWPI) Update by Susan Faulkner – Executive Director - HWPI
- a. Shared goal of building, using, and maintaining the trail.
 - b. Their goal is to support the B2B through fundraising and advocacy. Wanting to accelerate the building of the trail. In past 3.5 years, have \$8.7 million for construction of the trail. Big events are Oberun and Midnight Madness shopping with 10% of proceeds going to HWPI.
 - c. Excited about building the trail with celebratory events for groundbreakings and trail openings.
 - d. Thanks for partnership and encourage people to pick up information in the back.
5. Friends Of The Border To Border Trail business meeting.
- a. Update given on the Friends Of The Border To Border Trail Board activity.
 - b. Input & suggestions for the Friends and the B2B Trail itself.
 - c. Treasury report
 - \$10,000 grant from REI and about \$9000 distributed so far for the stations with four constructed.
 - \$7,000 fundraising through Oberun event which went to the HWPI Karen's Trail project.
 - d. Membership report
 - 81 members currently.
 - e. Board Of Directors election
 - Election bylaws review was given. A summary was that the Friends members elect Board members in November. At the next Board meeting (held in December or January), the Board member will select officers.

- Additional candidate nominations - None. Bob noted it was his error, but Oto Alves da Silva should have appeared on the ballot printed out, and asked everyone to write it in.
- Candidates statements.
- Election - Nine ballots collected. Members unanimously elected Oto Alves da Silva, Steve Butler and Beth Wanamaker to the Friends Board of Directors and reelected Tom Leone and Laura Shiltz to another two-year term on the Board. A big thank you for past Board service also goes out to Nate Campbell and Bruce Geffen who's terms on the Board ended in November.

f. New business

- None mentioned.

6. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.