

Friends Of The Border To Border Trail Board Meeting Minutes – Thursday, February 23, 2017

1. Call to order/Introductions/Public input – The meeting was brought to order at 7:09pm, Thursday, February 23, 2017 at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue, downtown Ypsilanti. Board members present were Ryan Bowles, Bruce Geffen, Eric Boyd, Bob Krzewinski, Tom Leone and Laura Shiltz.
2. Guest presentations – None.
3. General internal business
 - a. Agenda approval – A motion was made by Ryan, seconded by Tom, to approve the agenda, passing unanimously.
 - b. Minutes approval – A motion was made to approve the previous meeting minutes (December 2016) by Tom, seconded by Laura, passing unanimously.
 - c. Treasury report – In the treasury report, Tom reported \$3330.43 in the treasury account with a motion made by Tom, seconded by Eric to approve the report, passing unanimously.
 - d. Membership report – Bob will send out another round of renewal letters. A discussion was held on the Friends obtaining a “Square” card reader (<https://squareup.com/reader>) to sign up memberships at Friends events. Bruce will work on this project with a motion made by Ryan, seconded by Eric, passing unanimously, to obtain a Square card reader with a limit of \$50 on a unit cost.
 - e. Friends annual calendar list – Bob noted that coming up for renewal was the Friends Rails To Trails membership (March renewal - \$25), Michigan Trails & Greenway Alliance membership (April renewal - \$80) and a renewal of the Friends web domain (April renewal – 3-year renewal recommended for \$45.39). A motion was made by Bob, seconded by Ryan, to approve the renewals, passing unanimously. Also on the calendar list is the Friends spring newsletter with a deadline date of April 1.
 - f. Other
 - Chair absence procedure – Bob noted that in case of future absences of more than a couple days, he will clearly inform the Board and also pass command of the Friends to the Vice-Chair.
 - Meeting location schedule & locations – For rotating the Friends meetings along the Trail, and to have more meetings at a central location, the meeting location will be a cycle of a meeting in Ypsilanti, two consecutive meetings in Ann Arbor, a meeting in Dexter, then repeating this cycle.
4. B2B Update – Bob gave a review of current B2B projects including taking the Trail off-road through Ypsilanti and rerouting the Trail through Riverside Park/Water Street in Ypsilanti. Calls/Facebook posts to the Friends from people with concerns about the proposed off-road B2B segment between Dexter and Chelsea were discussed with these being passed on to the Huron-Waterloo Pathways Initiative for replies. Eric spoke about the Ann Arbor LowerTown area as it relates to the B2B and will contact a citizens group (<https://annarborlowertown.wordpress.com/walking-and-cycling/>) about this subject and having someone from the group attend the next Board meeting. There will be a pre-construction public input meeting on the proposed Dixboro connector trail to the B2B (Matthaei Botanical Gardens to Parker Mill) on February 28th and Bruce will attend on behalf of the Friends (7pm, Adventure Leadership Program, 1120 Dixboro Road).
5. Current project updates
 - a. Web page & social media – 1417 likes on the Friends Facebook page and Nate Campbell working on making the Friends more of a presence on Twitter.

- b. Friends flyer – Final glossy flyer is now complete and Bob will take it to printers with a previous resolution (April 2016) approving as many copies as \$135 will permit.
 - c. Next newsletter edition – April 1st deadline with a publication of April 15th. Articles needed.
 - d. Adopt A Trail sections – Some sections require volunteers and Bob will post these on Facebook.
6. Old & continuing business
- a. Trail/Friends events – Bob has turned in a request for a Friends table at Washtenaw Community Colleges Earth Day event (4/7) and Bruce and Bob will staff a table there. Bob will set up Friends information tables at Dexter and Arbor Cascades in April/May. A grand opening of new B2B sections in Ypsilanti is expected in April or May and the Friends will have a table there too. The Arbor Brewing Company Border To Border/Brewery To Brewery ride is expected for May 21st. For display material we have 100 County bike maps and a case of Michigan Trails magazines with another case expected in the spring.
 - b. Friends project grants – Bike repair stands – Eric is working on a Dero stand (<http://www.dero.com/product/fixit/>) being installed in Gallup Park along the B2B, having already obtained a site and offer of installation from the City of Ann Arbor and working now on a donation match with the Friends willing to pay half the cost (\$1300 total).
 - c. Allen Creek Greenway – Eric gave an update on this project.
 - d. Green Oak Township – No new updates.
 - e. 2017 priorities – Reviewed with Bob working on volunteers for membership work.
 - f. B2B directional stencils – Bob working on obtaining governmental body permission for arrow-painting with Bruce and Bob planning on painting directional items in April.
7. New Business
- a. Washtenaw County Parks – Bob gave an update on the February 23 Washtenaw County Parks Greenways Advisory Committee with the following items of note: County Parks is in the process of obtaining construction permits for the B2B section from Dexter-Huron Metropark east to Zeeb road with construction planned for later in 2017. County Parks is working with the City of Ann Arbor on a tunnel under the railroad tracks in Bandemer Park going west to Huron River Drive with a drive for City Council support for such a project gearing up for March and April. Michigan State University is working with County Parks on a new user study over the summer with volunteers being needed. County Parks has also has sent out project requests for the second phase of the Connecting Communities program where funds can be granted for non-B2B projects in the County.
 - b. Washtenaw County Parks – Friends Of The B2B – Huron Waterloo Pathways roles – An evening meeting is expected on this item in mid-March where each groups roles are well defined.
 - c. Karen's Trail support – Eric will attend a Karen's Trail meeting on 2/27/2016 (funding B2B construction in honor of Karen McKeachie - <http://huron-waterloo-pathways.org/the-karens-trail-fund-campaign/>).
 - d. Other - B2B routing on Google maps – Ryan will work on this project to have the B2B clearly defined on Google maps.
8. Next meeting & location – Bob will send out a Doodle poll for an April meeting.
9. Adjournment – A motion was made by Bob, seconded by Laura, to adjourn the meeting, passing unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:18pm.