

## **Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail (CFET) DRAFT**

Meeting Minutes

**September 13, 2021**

### **Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail was called to order at 6:07pm on September 13, 2021 by Ron Rich, Chair in the Community Room at Kinderhook Memorial Library.

### **Present**

Jerry Callahan, Lee Jamison, Jake Samascott, Deb Shakotko, Ron Rich, David Kolb, Lisa Hendler

Not Present: Robin Benziger, Paul Webber

Public: Jessie Anderson, Darla and Richard Skiermont, Mike Mescia

### **Review July 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Jerry moved and Deb seconded to approve: Passed

### **Review July 19, 2021 Minutes Special Meeting for Strategic Plan**

Deb moved and Jerry seconded to approve: Passed

### **Review August 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Deb moved and Jake seconded to approve: Passed

### **Treasurer and Budget Status Reports**

Reports presented by Deb thru August 31, 2021. Reports attached and distributed prior to meeting.

Opening Balance \$19,907.15

Revenue \$1,854.10

Expense \$2,830.25

Closing Balance \$18,931.00

Income has included memberships, donations and tee shirt sales. \$900 from a Hudson River Bank Trust grant and \$100 from Bank of Greene County.

Jerry moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Jake seconded, passed.

Jerry Callahan noted that we had not formally accepted his resignation as Treasurer or formally instated Deb Shakotko as the new Treasurer. He proposed a resolution to acknowledge his resignation retroactively to 5-31-21 and instating Deb as Treasurer as of 6-1-21. Dave moved and Jake seconded to approve: Passed

### **Membership Report**

Ron reports 161 members: 63 individuals, 84 families, 14 sponsors

There were 20 new individuals, 9 new family memberships and 1 new sponsor. Tabling at the Kinderhook Farmer's Market continues to have been good promotion and public relations.

### **Training and Maintenance Committee Report**

Ron reports that the mower crews have completed 8 full mowing circuits of the full path. String trimming continues. Ron continues to note that some foliage is tall and overhanging the trail above the reach of trimmers and will need addressing. A tractor with a sickle bar or flail arm attachment has been requested of the Greenway. This equipment may incur the need for a taller storage shed.

Mike Mescia from the audience said he was a landscaper and wishes to volunteer for trail maintenance.

Jake notes that new volunteers need to be scheduled for safety training.

### **Strategic Planning Committee Report**

This task is now finished. Ron distributed the Public Version. Copy on file. We now need to populate the various committees enumerated in the Plan. Please volunteer.

### **Web Development Report**

Lee reports the committee met 9/26, 30 and 31. Solasus has the framework and a substantial amount of material for the web. There are catch-up bits. Content from the Strategic Plan was extremely helpful. We hope to be “live” by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Many thanks to all. Jessie Anderson volunteered to help with this and future Communications Committee.  
Monthly Meetings should be posted on our Face Book Page

### **Grant Updates**

Bank of Green County gave a donation of \$100

Hudson River Bank Trust gave \$900

Ron was invited to speak to the “50 Group” at Kozels Restaurant on September 8, 2021 and it is hoped they would support the Trail. Ron noted that the exhibit of the interpretive panels from the AHET Trail could be a moveable, traveling Art Show after the planned display at the Hudson Library.

### **Kinderhook Farmers Market Debrief**

Continues to be productive PR as noted earlier

### **Fall Fundraiser Planning**

A Fall 2021 Oktoberfest event with the Kinderhook Tri-Village Rotary will be held 10-23-21 from 3-6 pm. It will be a take-out, same as last year, at Samascott’s Market, with table seating (and beer with a discount) at Rifenberg Brewery on Main Street Valatie. Anne Schaefer is greatly thanked for her graphic designs for the Fest and help with Eventbrite promotion on the web. Tickets are \$20. We hope to sell 400-500 tickets.

### **Public Comments**

New members attended and volunteered as noted.

### **Next Meeting**

Next meeting, Monday October 4, 2021 at 6pm at KML. Entrance on Sylvester Street. Masks required.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lee Jamison