

Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail (CFET) 10-13-25
Meeting Minutes October 13 2025 (with corrections)

Monthly Meeting October 13, 2025

Call to Order

The October Monthly meeting of the Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail was called to order at 6:00 pm on October 13, 2025 by Vice President Bill Schneider in the Reading Porch of the Kinderhook Memorial Library.

Present:

Deb Shakotko, Lee Jamison, Bill Schneider, Bob Hess, Michael Susi, Jessie Anderson, Kevin Gilrain,

Zoom: Ron Rich

Absent: Nolan Robinson

Public: Jim DiGioia, Christine Francis, Charlie Silva, Bridget Roos

Review September 15, 2025, Monthly Meeting Minutes

Deb moved and Mike seconded to approve: Passed

Treasurer and Budget Status Reports

Deb gave treasurer's report through September 30, 2025

Opening Checking Account Balance: \$ 30,352.31

Revenue: \$1710.84

Expenses: \$3,265.61

Closing Balance: \$28,704.20

Total with CD, Reserves: \$ 59,825.75

Expenditures include gas, equipment maintenance, insurance and truck loan

(Discussion of transfer of some funds to CD tabled for next month—not discussed)

Bob moved to approve the report and Bill seconded: Passed.

Training and Maintenance Committee Report

Bob Hess and Bill Schneider covered mowing while Kevin was on vacation.

Kevin has returned and reports 153 hours of mowing. This is down from last year due to pause for the paving and maybe a dryer summer. We anticipate one more mowing. Very woody growth tackled along the Stockport and Greenport sections. The flail and sicklebar have gotten lots of use there and in Schodack. There has had to be maintenance on that equipment.

Charlie Silva reported that there was vandalism with 100 Dog Waste bags dumped on the trail by Rothermel Park. This is the Village of Kinderhook's section. Charlie picked up the bags.

Kevin is planning a Volunteer Appreciation Event-- tba

Membership Report

Bob Hess reports 4 new members

Communication: Jessie presented finalizing details for maps for the brochure. Suggestions were to add benches, note on and off road sections, road crossing signals. Many thanks to all for work on this project.

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Events:

Octoberfest set for 10-18-25 3-6pm at Samascott's Farm Market with Rotary

209 tickets sold so far with sales to end Thursday

Volunteers should report to Samascott's Farm Market at 2:30pm.

Public Comments: Bridget Roos raised concerns about safety at the crossing at Electric Park and suggested crossing lines could be painted on the road. The Greenway may have to address this to the Town of Chatham who is responsible for the road. Ron noted that the Rescue Squad is collecting and assessing safety data related to the Trail.

Adjournment: Kevin moved to go to Executive Session at 6:56pm Bill seconded and approved. Discussion of transition of leadership and expiration of terms. Ron to reachout to interested potential new Boardmembers. Also discussed officers.

Expiring 2025: Mike Susi, Nolan Robinson, Kevin Gilrain

Expiring 2026: Ron Rich (having filled unexpired term of Jake Samascott and resigning 12-31-25) , Bob Hess (having filled unexpired term of Dave Kolb) , Jessie Anderson

Expiring 2027: Deb Shakotko, Bill Schneider, Lee Jamison
Executive Session adjourned at 7:09pm Bill moved, Deb seconded, approved

Meeting adjourned; Bob moved, Mike seconded, approved at 7:10pm

Next Meeting

November 10, 2025 @ 6pm

We are now meeting on the second Monday of each month. We will meet Monday November 10th, 2025 in the Reading Porch of the Kinderhook Memorial Library
Please use the Sylvester Street entrance.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Jamison