

Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail (CFET) 12-6-21
Meeting Minutes December 6, 2021

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail was called to order at 6:05pm on December 6, 2021 by Ron Rich, Chair in the Community Room at Kinderhook Memorial Library.

Present

Ron Rich, Jake Samascott, Deb Shakotko, Lee Jamison
Not Present: David Kolb, Robin Benziger, Jerry Callahan
Public: Jessie Anderson

Review November 2021 Meeting Minutes

Deb moved and Jake seconded to approve: Passed

Treasurer and Budget Status Reports

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

Opening Balance \$ 22,741.86

Revenue (\$ 4008.73) Rotary share for Oktoberfest for their profit and expenses

Expense \$1126.18

Closing Balance \$17,606.95

Deb presented her draft for the 2022 Budget. She noted increased expenses over past year for insurance due to more equipment to maintain, predicted increase in gas prices and repayment of UTV loan. There is an increase in grant income from Greenway for 2022 and the addition of a flail mower. PTNY Grant for benches (\$8,600) will not be known until the Spring.

Lee moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Jake seconded: Passed.

Membership Report

Ron reports 180 members: 74 individuals, 92 families, 14 sponsors

There were 7 new members; 3 individuals, 4 new family memberships. Renewals due December.

Board Changes

There are 2 current vacancies on the Board with a 3rd in January.

Positions will be voted in at the January 3rd Annual Meeting

Bill Schneider and Jessie Anderson have responded as willing candidates. We seek a third.

(The Board may have up to nine members.)

New Standing Committees

Members are encouraged to volunteer!

Finance and Grants: Deb and Jerry

Stewardship (Maintenance crew, volunteers, training): Jake

PR/Events/Members: Robin, Jessie

Training and Maintenance Committee Report

Jake reports that with one last mowing trip there have been 9 mowings done on the trail this season.

Mowers have been transported to Grasslands for servicing to be ready for Spring 2022.

New tractor is expected in February. Jake will be setting up training schedules for the Spring.

He wants to do more regular times for string trimming.

The Greenway has arranged for plowing parking areas as CFET is not obligated to do snow removal.

Web Development Report

The Website is up. Jessie has agreed to handle updates. Pay Pal function is on it for renewals and donations.

Monthly Meetings will be posted on our Face Book Page

Grant Updates

Ron, as approved last month, requested funding for 8 benches from NY Parks and Trails with agreement from Greenway. Announcements expected in May 2022.

Newsletter

Ron is assembling pictures and content. He will thank volunteers. Anne Shaeffer is helping.

Other

Deb, on our behalf, sent a letter to Governor Hochul, supporting the Greenway and the importance of trails. Thank you!

Public Comments

Jessie suggested we add a line at the website to ask how the reader found CFET, to raise the amount of suggested donations and more opportunities to ask for funds.

Next Meeting/Annual Meeting

Next meeting, Monday January 3, 2022 at 6pm at KML. Entrance on Sylvester Street. Masks required.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Jamison