

Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail (CFET) 6-8-26
Meeting Minutes June 8, 2026

Monthly Meeting June 8, 2026

Call to Order

The June Monthly meeting of the Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail was held in the Kinderhook Library. Meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Chair Bob Hess.

Present: Bob Hess, Bill Schneider, Deb Shakotko, Lee Jamison,, Kevin Gilrain, Michael Susi, Scott Cairns, David Pettie,

Present via Zoom:

Absent: Jessie Anderson

Public: Ron Rich

Review May 11, 2026 Monthly Meeting Minutes

Kevin moved and Deb seconded to approve: Passed with a minor correction that next Meeting is June (not May) 8.

Treasurer and Budget Status Reports

Deb provided treasurer's reports ending May 31, 2026

Opening Checking Account Balance: \$ 25,656.51

Revenue: \$5,246.19

Expenses: \$1,154.82

Closing Balance: \$29,632.69

Total with CD, Reserves: \$ 71,607.75

This month income reflects final Greenway Grant payment , CD interest and expenses included payment on truck, thank you lunch for BoyScout volunteers and National Grid for Niverville.

Bill moved to approve, Scott seconded; approved

Training and Maintenance Committee Report

Kevin reported that there is lots of grass growing now!!!

One volunteer left and two new people have joined. They have already done three deployments. Ron reported problems with the sickle bar and they will reserve it for Schodack section. He will use flail mower bar instead.

Kevin will be away for vacation in July but will coordinate scheduling volunteers with Bob Hess. Kevin dealt with a downed tree behind Tractor Supply section of Trail.

Woods Lane residents in the Falls have been mowing their area.

Sign repaired in North Chatham, DOT still needs to fix crossing at Rt9 by Williams Farm.

The goal is to have the Trail looking good for the July 4th weekend.

Dog Waste Stations: A broken one was fixed and Ron will fix a wobbly one in Stottville.

Membership Report

Ron reports 128 members; 40 individual, 64 families, 24 sponsors. T. Baker Fund gave \$5,000.

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Communication: People love the Trail Brochure. Dan will make recommended corrections and Dan will go ahead with printing the next edition.

Events:

6-13-26 Volunteer Fair at the Parish Hall of the Episcopal Church McNary Center- 10am to 2pm, was rescheduled from 6-27-26. We are invited to table. Lee and Bill volunteered 8-3-26 will be the start of Parks and Trails “Ride the Hudson Valley”. They will start this section at Hudson Valley CC and go to CGCC for the evening.

Trail Enhancement Projects: Everyone likes the idea of picnic tables. Tables are ready to be ordered (Bob) and delivered(Ron) and installed in Niverville by a team of Bob, Ron, Scott and Dave.

Public Comments: Some complaints have been received about speeding bikes, dirt bikes on the trail and TP vandalism at Rt 9 crossing by Williams Farm. People are encouraged to take pictures and report. State Police are in charge of enforcement as the Trail is a State Park. Dave asked if it is permissible to have art installations along the Trail. Bob will discuss with Greenway/Andy Beers.

Adjournment Deb moved, Kevin seconded Meeting adjourned 7:09pm

Next Meeting

July 13, 2026 @ 6pm

We are now meeting on the second Monday of each month. We will meet Monday July 13, 2026 in the Reading Porch of the Kinderhook Memorial Library.
Please use the Sylvester Street entrance.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Jamison