

Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail (CFET) 6-9-25
Meeting Minutes June 9, 2025

Monthly Meeting June 9, 2025

Call to Order

The June Monthly meeting of the Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail was called to order at 6:02 pm on June 9, 2025 by President Ron Rich in the Reading Porch of the Kinderhook Memorial Library.

Present:

Ron Rich, Deb Shakotko, Lee Jamison, Bill Schneider, Bob Hess, Kevin Gilrain,

Zoom: Nolan Robinson

Absent: Jessie Anderson, Michael Susi

Public: Jim DiGioia

Review May 5, 2025, Monthly Meeting Minutes

Bill moved and Deb seconded to approve: Passed

Treasurer and Budget Status Reports

Deb gave treasurer's report through May 31, 2025

Opening Checking Account Balance: \$ 28,095.62

Revenue: \$587.65

Expenses: \$435.47

Closing Balance: \$ 28,235.15

Total with CD, Reserves: \$ 58,987.89

Income includes a reimbursement from United Ag&Turf for a credit for a canopy

Deb expects final disbursement from Greenway of \$3,000 shortly

She notes gifts and memberships are a bit behind last year.

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

Membership Report

Nolan reported that 12 new members for May generating \$600. 113 renewal acknowledgement letters were sent out. Membership duties will transition to Bob Hess for September 1st. Kevin expressed thanks for the membership update as volunteers must be members to be covered by insurance for Trail work.

Training and Maintenance Committee Report

Kevin distributed the volunteer report: 46.5 hours

7-8 volunteers show up for work days

Most sections have been mowed twice and they are trying to keep ahead of the paving crews.

They are dealing with turtle removals gently as the public raised concerns about snapping turtles nesting in stone dust sections that are being paved.

The sickle bar broke again.

Ron and Jake plan to mow the Rensselaer 16 mile section with the sickle bar

Paving Update: Paving crew is up to Valatie and likely to be ahead of schedule—depending on weather. They hope to finish before the end of July. Its noted that people have ignored “Closed for Paving” signage. Parks and Trails NY Trail Ride is scheduled for end of July.

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Dog Waste Stations: Installation sites for Mutt Mitts and collection bin selected--North Chatham by the Depot, Niverville Trailhead, Main Street Valatie, Stuyvesant at Sunnyside Rd. The green stations (like the Kinderhook stations) have arrived and will be installed after paving is finished.

Communication: Ron to meet with Jessie

Farmers Market: No report as Jessie is absent. We aim to do Kinderhook once a month.

Public Comments: none

Adjournment: Bill moved, Deb seconded; Meeting adjourned 6:47 pm

Next Meeting July 7, 2025 @ 6pm

We will meet Monday July 7th, 2025 in the Community Room of the Kinderhook Memorial Library
Please use the Sylvester Street entrance.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Jamison