

**Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail (CFET) 4-11-22 Draft
Monthly Meeting Minutes April 11, 2022**

Call to Order

The regular April meeting of the Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail was called to order at 6:04 pm on 4-11, 2022 by Ron Rich, Chair, in the Community Room at Kinderhook Memorial Library.

Present

Ron Rich, Jake Samascott, Deb Shakotko, Lee Jamison,, Jessie Anderson, Bill Schneider, David Kolb
Not Present: Robin Benziger,
Public: Jim DiGioia

Review March 2022 Monthly Meeting Minutes

No corrections
Bill moved and Deb seconded to approve: Passed

Treasurer and Budget Status Reports

Reports presented by Deb thru March 31, 2022.
Opening Balance \$30,456.92
Revenue \$ 656.21
Expense \$3,301.50
Closing Balance \$27,811.63 Reserve Acc't: \$2,375.00

Expenses have included payments UTV loan, mailings, supplies
Most memberships have been renewed
Lee moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Dave seconded: Passed.

Membership Report

Ron reports renewing members: 121 active members have renewed
36 individuals
67 families
15 sponsors
3 donors

Training and Maintenance Committee Report

Jake reports mowing and trimming was inactive. He will be setting up times for training on equipment.
Training for chain saw to be scheduled to coordinate with Lindenwald.
Fixed string-trimming schedules to be set for Weds mornings and Sundays.

Niverville Storage Shed: Now wired. Thank you to Joe McIntyre who donated 10 hours of electrical work. There was discussion of security system, cameras, State Police patrol. Dave Kolb offered advice on security. Ron will get internet price proposals from Consolidated Communications and Spectrum. Dave also recommended keeping a list of equipment serial numbers to help in case of theft. This is already being done.

Mowing Ahead Signs: Ron will arrange for sandwich type signs

Gardening Committee: Carol Corrigan agreed to Chair this Committee to plant native flowers at trailheads and potentially other trail locations.

Lee discussed use of goats with the abutting homeowner with the knotweed problem. He is skeptical but willing.

Earth Day Trail Clean-ups:

4-23-22 Saturday 9-11:30am

Trash clearing

Brush trimming

Mark obstacles for removal or avoidance of flail mower. Ron has 200 pole markers

Two teams will meet in Stuyvesant Falls: Jessie Anderson and 4-h Club and Kinderhook Scouts with Bill Schneider

Valatie Scouts will meet at Valatie Medical Arts

5-1-22 Sunday 10am-12:30

Lee Alexander and Chatham Scouts will meet TBA to do Niverville / Chatham sections

Grant Updates

Ron, as authorized in November 2021, requested funding for 8 benches from Parks and Trails NY. Award announcements expected in May 2022.

Events

Hudson Farmers Market: They are outdoors starting in May.

World Bicycle Day: June 4, 2022

Summer Solstice Celebration: Planned for Saturday June 18, 2022 6:30-8pm

People will run, walk or bike to Samascott's Farm via the Trail to a bonfire event. Runners Club will participate.

History Night: Hudson Library will be announcing a display of the AHET Trail signs and a speakers event with industrial historian, Matt Kierstead.

Public Comments:

One neighbor from Stuyvesant hopes that there will be plans to install some sort of port-a-potty or restroom facilities along the trail. Ron explained that port-a-potties are not allowed on the trail. Service trucks would not have adequate access. Other solutions can be kept in mind ie. facilities at neighboring parks or stores.

Adjournment: Lee moved, Bill seconded; Meeting adjourned 7:45 pm

Next Meeting

Next meeting, Monday May 2, 2022 at 6pm at KML. Entrance on Sylvester Street. **Masks optional.**

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Jamison