

**Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail (CFET) 10-7-2024  
Meeting Minutes October 7, 2024**

**Monthly Meeting October 7, 2024**

**Present:**

Jake Samascott, Bill Schneider, Lee Jamison, Jessie Anderson, Deb Shakotko, Kevin Gilrain,  
Michael Susi via Zoom

Public: Jim DiGioia, Ron Rich

Absent: David Kolb, Nolan Robinson

**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 7, 2024 by Jake Samascott in the Community Room of the Kinderhook Memorial Library

**Review Monthly Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2024**

Bill moved to approve and Kevin seconded; Passed

**Treasurer's Report**

Deb provided the treasurer's report through 9-30-24.

Opening Balance \$26,279.35

Revenue \$437.85 CD interest, Oktoberfest ticket sales on Zeffy

Expenses \$3,308.15 Truck payments, gasoline, Liability Insurance

Closing Balance: Checking: \$23,301.20

CD: \$30,215.31

Bill moved to approve and Jessie seconded: Passed.

**Membership Report**

no report

**Training and Maintenance Committee Report**

Kevin shared the year-to-date report on mowing and trimming deployments and volunteer hours.

He anticipates one more mowing before winterizing and storing equipment.

Areas around fences need a final trim.

He was pleased to see the return of volunteers Matt Nelson and Sue McDermott.

Kevin notes that the Grid has been trimming trees and brush-hogging as part of their right-of-way maintenance.

Kevin reported that the concerns about Japanese Knotweed from an abutting property owner were addressed with a meeting with the owner, Andy Beers, DEC expert, Mayor, DPW Representative to affirm that the mowing of the trail had not spread Knotweed anymore than previously existing and had been mowed according to appropriate practice. Its felt the homeowner is still dissatisfied.

Crew Appreciation Event: Jake reported he contacted Dell's as a venue for an end-of-season event with a positive response. Date to be discussed at the November Meeting.

**Farmers Markets**

Jessie reported on the 10-5 Kinderhook Farmers Market. 20 Oktoberfest tickets were sold. Totals are less than 100 so far. We will continue to sell at the Farmers Market on 10-12-24. Jessie, Greg

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Berninger and Mike will table. Lee can come later to help after another meeting in Stuyvesant. We will all work to sell more tickets as 500 were printed. Market supplies can be stored for winter in the Niverville shed.

**Oktoberfest** volunteers will report to Samascott's Market at 2:30pm on 10-19-24.

### **Grant Updates**

no report

### **Other Business:**

#### **Stuyvesant Falls Storage Container**

The container, painted green, has been set up near the Stuyvesant Falls Overlook. It was installed by Ron Rich who reports it needs some leveling but he has lumber for shims. Winterizing and storage of various equipment and vehicles were discussed.

Jake and Ron reported that the sickle bar for the tractor will be installed by United Trail and Turf after Jake has removed the flail attachment.

### **Public Comments:**

Jim DiGioia continues to advocate for a sidewalk between Gaffney and Smith Rd.

Dan Bopp of Kinder Drive has reported vehicles turning on to the paved section of the trail by Smith Rd. A Stuyvesant Falls resident expressed concern about putting a "Caution" sign at a blind corner near Rossman Rd and the Trail. Ron Rich offered to speak to Andy Beers about these issues.

**Adjournment of Monthly Meeting:** Bill moved, Jessie seconded; Meeting adjourned 6:50 pm

### **Next Meeting Monday November 4, 2024 @ 6pm**

at the Community Room at the Kinderhook Memorial Library.

Please use the Sylvester Street entrance.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lee Jamison