



**Friends of SMARTrails
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday December 12, 2022
Village of Kaleva (former Elementary School)
6:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Karen Kolk, Vice-president; Linda Cudney, Secretary; Jacque Erdman, Treasurer; Zachary Pawlowski, Rob Carson, President, Claire Richards and Dave Myers.

Board Members Absent: Elaine Gibbs, Mary Reed, Al Taylor.

Guests: Mark Coe, Sara Herberger, Wayne Beldo.

- I. **Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Karen Kolk, vice president.
- II. **Consent Agenda** It was motioned and supported to accept the consent agenda. AIF. Motion carried.
 1. **November 14, 2022 Board Minutes**

There was one correction under the Recreation Commission update to list County of Manistee, not City of Manistee. Motioned by Jacque Erdman, seconded by Dave Myers to accept the minutes from the November 14, 2022 meeting. AIF. Motion Carried.
 2. **Treasurers Report and Payment of Bills**

Jacque Erdman furnished a Treasurers report with a Statement of Income and Expenses from January 1, 2022 thru December 11, 2022, plus a transaction detail for the year. There were 2 bills to pay, one to Pro Web Marketing for \$25.00 and Jacque for postage for the year of \$11.73. Jacque stated that we received \$200.00 from Giving Tuesday and Paypal, which also shows a monthly recurrence of a \$9.75 donation. Also received was \$750.00 from NOMI Racing from proceeds from the Rusty Fish 100. Since the check for the Rusty Fish 100 was made out to the MCCF, the check was handed over to Sara Herberger who will take care of it. Linda motioned to accept the Treasurers report and payment of bills, Dave seconded the motion. AIF. Motion carried.
- III. **New Business**
 1. **Memorandum of Understanding between FBVT, TARP and SMARTrails**

Rob received the MOU from Jed Maker, from the Friends of the Betsie Valley Trail which he shared with the Board members. There was much discussion and many questions on naming of the trails, signage on the trails, maintenance of the trails, plus DNR approval. With our concerns, it was tabled and agreed to invite Charles Kraus from TARP, Jed Maker from FBVT and Scott Slavin from the DNR to attend a meeting so things can be worked out for all parties. Rob will contact Scott Slavin.
 2. **Changing the SMARTrails logo**

It was decided to take the trails off the logo and keep it as **SMART** to keep in sync with the TART trails in Grand Traverse County. The SMART will go under the trees in the logo along

with Scenic Manistee Area Recreation Trails. We will still be Friends of SMARTrails so we do not need to change our assumed name or have to change our Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. It was motioned and approved to change the logo to SMART. AIF.

3. NOMI Racing and the Rusty Fish Presentation

Zach reported there was a great turnout for the Rusty Fish 100 presentation with SMARTrails receiving a check for \$750.00. Zach reported they shared proceeds with 4 groups. He will share it on our website and Facebook.

4. Invite Charles Kraus to attend January 9, 2023 meeting

Linda sent an email to Charles Kraus, from Thompsonville Area Revitalization Project (TARP) and invited him to come to one of our upcoming meetings and he agreed to attend our January 9, 2023 meeting. He is president of TARP and can give us a synopsis of what they are doing in Thompsonville, as a visitors center and gateway to rails-trails,

IV. Old Business.

- 1. Update of Website.** Zach and Rob have been working on the Google non profit status and Tech Soup, a non profit digital marketing website. Rob asked Jacque to check and see if she had gotten any information in her email. The marketing committee will be making a list of priorities, in conjunction with the strategic plan after the holidays are over.
- 2. EDA Grant.** Rob reported that they are getting ready to write Request for Proposals (RFP) for the EDA grant. He is hoping the trail will be built this summer, it may take a bit longer with the bridge over Bear Creek depending on whether they build a pre fab bridge.

V. Other Business

1. Recreation Commission Update.

Linda & Wayne reported on the Recreation Commission Update. The County is looking at the SPARK grant. Wayne Beldo is hosting a meeting in Kaleva tomorrow, December 13, 2022 with Township Supervisors and John Roth, our State Representative regarding Tippy Dam. Also, it was motioned and seconded to ask the County Board of Commissioners to allow County Planning to work on an ORV map for Manistee County, since some of the Townships have updated roads and the US Forest Service has allowed roads to be used. Have not heard anything on the Rail Relocation grant.

2. Mark Coe, from the Manistee Snowbirds

Mark Coe presented a map and description of a staging and parking area for the trail off Chief Road and a bid from Arcadia Enterprises for \$4,320.00. Zack will take care of this and present it to the Manistee County Community Foundation. Mark also stated that the Snowbirds are looking at getting a grant for a tractor with a spring boom arm to help trim along the trails. Maybe the Friends Betsie Valley Trail will help too, as it will be used in both Counties.

VI. Board Member Comments/Correspondence.

- Linda thanked Zack for the nice job on the newsletter for SMARTrails. The printable version was great, as she made copies for her Township Board and on file at their Township.
- Linda will try and get with Tamara regarding the update of the Strategic Plan.
- Mark Coe reported that when the designated ORV routes are named, they would like to put them on the new Snowmobile maps, if the County Board of Commissioners approve County Planning to redo the maps. He also reported that the Mesick bridge repair over the Manistee River is in motion. The pylons are structurally sound on the bridge.
- Sara Herberger from the Manistee County Community Foundation commented that the Foundation is open and welcomes regional collaboration of trails.

VII. Adjourn. Motioned and supported to adjourn at 7:23 P.M.

VIII. Next meeting will be Monday, January 9, 2023, at 9208 Kauko Street, Kaleva at 6:00 P.M.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by:

**Linda Cudney
Secretary
Friends of SMARTrails**

DRAFT