**Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail (CFET) DRAFT**

Meeting Minutes (Virtual) July 12**, 2021**

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail was Called to order at 6:07pm on July 12, 2021 by Ron Rich, Chair.

**Present**

Robin Benziger, Jerry Callahan, Lisa Hendler, Lee Jamison, Jake Samascott, Deb Shakotko, Ron Rich

Not Present: David Kolb, Paul Webber

**ReviewJune 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Approved on a motion by Jerry, seconded by Deb, passed.

**Treasurer and Budget Status Reports**

Reports presented by Deb thru July 6, 2021. Reports attached and distributed prior to meeting.

Revenue $903

Expense $6,723.27

Closing Balance $24,950.15

Income has been memberships , donation and tee shirt sales. Deb noted that a monthly expense will change with hosting of SquareSpace online donations as previous transaction fees were on Sean’s account.

Jerry moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report, Robin seconded, passed.

**Membership Report**

Ron reports 137 members: 53 individuals, 71 families, 13 sponsors

7 new and 1 renewals were picked up at the July 3 and 10 Kinderhook Farmer’s Market.

**Training and Maintenance Committee Report**

Ron reports that the mower crews have been coping with the recent rainy weather. Some foliage is tall and overhanging the trail above the reach of trimmers and will need addressing. The heavier duty blade trimmer has been used on the knotweed area. To the north, the Niverville trail head storage garage should be delivered in 5-6 weeks. The Stottville trail head 40 ft shipping container was delivered 6-29-21. Ron reports that Greg Berninger has volunteered to adopt a stretch of trail from Bageltyme in Valatie to Niverville for trimming. Encouraging adoptions may be a good strategy for other sections, too.

**Strategic Planning Committee Report**

Robin reported consultant Jessica Hansen asks for response to Plan Draft by Wednesday July 14. Presentation July 19 at 6pm via Zoom.

**Web Development Report**

Lee notes most sections need written updates. Ron and Deb have volunteered to tackle this. We will try to meet this month. Sean wishes to not host the website after August 1.

**Grant Updates**

Ron reported our 2021 Greenway grant cycle renews effective April 1st for $10,000. Greenway Board has approved grant but not yet received. Ron submitted a $900 grant application to the Hudson River Bank Foundation which will go toward a generator and we await news.. An application to Community Bank for a $1000 grant to help defray shipping container costs is pending completion.

**Kinderhook Farmers Market Debrief**

Tabled July 3rd and 10th with good responses from the public and new membership as noted previously.

**Fall Fundraiser Planning**

A tentative Fall 2021 Oktoberfest event with the Kinderhook Tri-Village Rotary is being planned. The Rotary has been approached again for culinary services as before. Sabine Murphy is enthusiastic about doing desserts and asked if the Samascott’s kitchen would be available. Jake said yes. Likely location will be in he field on Rt. 9 across from Samascott’s Garden Farm in Kinderhook. Robin and Jake are the organizers.

**Next Meeting**

We discussed in person venues. It was decided that Lee would explore the availability of the Kinderhook Library Community Room. This was successful.

Monday August 2, 2021 at 6pm at KML. Entrance on Sylvester Street .

Submitted

Lee Jamison