

Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail (CFET) 4-3-23
Monthly Meeting Minutes **April 3, 2023**

Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail was called to order at 6:02 pm on April 3, 2023 by Jake Samascott, Vice-Chair, in the Community Room at Kinderhook Memorial Library.

Present

Ron Rich (via Zoom), Lee Jamison, Deb Shakotko, Jessie Anderson, Jake Samascott, Michael Susi, Nolan Robinson, David Kolb,
Not Present: Bill Schneider,

Review March 6, 2023 Monthly Meeting Minutes

No corrections

Deb moved and Jessie seconded to approve: Passed

Treasurer and Budget Status Reports

Report Presented by Deb thru March 31, 2023

Opening Balance \$32,386.66

Revenue \$5,875 (\$1,575 in Memberships and Donations; \$4,300 from NYS Parks and Trails)

Expenses \$4,043.26 includes insurance and contributions to equipment reserve and reserve for insurance.

Closing Balance \$34,218.40

Ron moved to approve both month's reports, Nolan seconded: Passed.

Membership Report

Membership renewals: 131 to date, slow but similar to last year. Nolan will send a personal thank you for donations \$250 and over.

Training and Maintenance Committee Report

Reviewed and updated plans from last month:

Earth Day Clean-up set for 4-22-23 @ 9am.

Kinderhook Scouts will meet up at Little Lake Rd

Chatham Scouts will meet up at the North Chatham Hardware Store

Earth Day chores will be to flag obstacles, clear brush to prepare shoulders for flail mowing

Scouts cannot use power equipment. Ron has buttons for volunteers.

Training for Trail Maintenance for new and returning adult volunteers set for 4-29-23 @1-2pm meetup at Samascott's Farm. Maintenance volunteers are required to be members. Four volunteers responded to email, so far. Mike will send out another reminder.

Chainsaw Training: Andy Beers (Greenway) has a training resource at Rensselaer Land Trust. Ron will call to see if we can collaborate for training.

Andy Beers will do a "drive through" of the entire trail to assess maintenance issues. The washout in Valatie will likely be addressed with some drainage and then paving.

Andy Beers will be away over the summer. Covering for him will be Cody Arana at the Greenway.

Members can report other maintenance issues; ie downed trees, etc to Bill Schneider

Page 2

Events

Wine Tasting Fundraiser 7-29-23 has been proposed by internationally renowned Sommelier, Daniel Johnnes, with support from the Kinderhook Bottle Shop.

We continue to discuss possible venues as the original idea of the Stuyvesant Hydro Power Plant was determined unsuitable, after a site visit, due to dust and lack of water.

Lee reported that Jack Shainman (The School) was open to an outdoor event as the indoor exhibit in July will be videos which he felt would be distracting. The Aviary proposed being an indoor venue with food but requested a change to Sunday 7-30-23. This was possible. We discussed ideas for the focus of the proceeds of the fundraiser.

Grant Updates

Ron is meeting with Mark Knudsen and Bill Bedell to plan bench installation over the summer.

Farmer's Market

Jessie reported we will be community vendors on 5-13-23 and 9-16-23 at Hudson Farmer's Market.

Lee, Nolan and Jessie will cover the booth.

Public Comments: none

Adjournment: Mike moved, Jessie seconded; Meeting adjourned 6:55 pm

Next Meeting

We will meet Monday May 1, 2023 at 6pm at KML. Ron will be away and Jake will Chair the meeting. Entrance on Sylvester Street. **Masks optional.**

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Jamison