

**Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail (CFET) 3-7-22 Draft  
Monthly Meeting Minutes March 7, 2022**

**Call to Order**

The regular March meeting of the Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail was called to order at 6:05 pm on March 7, 2022 by Jake Samascott, VP in the Community Room at Kinderhook Memorial Library.

**Present**

Jake Samascott, Deb Shakotko, Lee Jamison,, Jessie Anderson, Bill Schneider, Ron Rich (via internet),  
Not Present: Robin Benziger, David Kolb  
Public: none

**Review January 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes**

Corrections were made to the financial report regarding more precise amounts to beginning and ending account balances rather than rounded numbers. Also noted that financial reports are not on the website. Bill moved and Deb seconded to approve as corrected: Passed

**Review January 2022 Monthly Meeting Minutes**

Correction made to financial report that the Hudson River Bank Grant for the Generator was given earlier in 2021, not this period.  
Deb moved and Jessie seconded to approve as corrected: Passed

**Treasurer and Budget Status Reports**

Reports presented by Deb thru February 28, 2022. Reports attached and distributed prior to meeting.

Opening Balance \$ 28,478.74

Revenue \$ 5,975.00

Expense \$3,996.82

Closing Balance \$30,456.92

Membership renewals have been coming in and also money from Towns of Stuyvesant and Kinderhook. Many thanks!

Expenses have included payments on insurance.

Ron moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Bill seconded: Passed.

**Membership Report**

Ron reports renewing members: 33 individuals, 62 families, 17 sponsors

Renewals were due December and have been rolling in.

Renewing members will get an historic post card as a thank you.

Might be good to put a reminder on the FaceBook page.

We discussed ideas for acknowledging sponsors and municipalities in the next newsletter

**Training and Maintenance Committee Report**

Jake is surveying volunteers for most available/best times for mowing, string trimming and working with the flail mower per Bill's suggestion last meeting. Mowing and trimming is inactive now for winter.

Likely mowing will start in May, though last year the team started in April.

Earth Day Weekend Trail Clean-up; April 23, 2022; Sunday 4-24 rain date 9-11:30am Scouts from Kinderhook and Valatie will volunteer. Jessie Anderson will ask for 4-H volunteers as well. It will also be an opportunity to flag obstacles for the flail mower.

Joe McIntyre donated services as electrician. Work at Niverville shed needs to be co-ordinated with the Grid.

Carol Corrigan volunteered to do native species plantings.

We discussed use of goats to control knotweed. Lee will discuss with the abutting homeowner with the knotweed problem.

### **Grant Updates**

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

### **Events**

Hudson Farmers Market: Ron is submitting a no fee application to table at this 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: Discussed reviving this idea that had come up pre-COVID. It would take place in the Fall after the History Panel Display at the Hudson Library. Various venues were discussed. Original site at Valatie Community Theater may be too small. Robin's Committee will be exploring.

### **Public Comments**

None

Bill Schneider noted he is installing a mile marker on his abutting property.

Adjournment: Bill moved, Deb seconded; Meeting adjourned 7:17 pm

### **Next Meeting**

Next meeting, Monday April 11, 2022 at 6pm at KML. Entrance on Sylvester Street. **Masks optional.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Jamison