

**Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail (CFET) 5-2-22 Draft
Monthly Meeting Minutes May 2, 2022**

Call to Order

The regular May meeting of the Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail was called to order at 6:05 pm on 5-2, 2022 by Ron Rich, Chair, in the Community Room at Kinderhook Memorial Library.

Present

Ron Rich, Deb Shakotko, Lee Jamison,, Jessie Anderson, Bill Schneider, Robin Benziger,
Not Present: Jake Samascott, David Kolb
Public: Ann and Rod Scharoun, Gail Babirad, Carol Corrigan, Gary Spielmann

Review March 2022 Monthly Meeting Minutes

No corrections
Bill moved and Robin seconded to approve: Passed

Treasurer and Budget Status Reports

Reports presented by Deb thru April 30, 2022.
Opening Balance \$ 27,811.63
Revenue \$ 685.00
Expense \$2,258.42
Closing Balance \$26,238.21 Reserve Acc't: \$2,375.00

Expenses have included payments for wiring for Niverville, UTV monthly payment
Most memberships have been renewed, income from dues and t-shirt sales
Lee moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Jessie seconded: Passed.

An Audit was performed on 4-25-22 to cover 18 months of 2020 through 2021 for the period that Jerry Callahan was Treasurer. Performed by CFET members; Jurgen Babirad, Ann Birkmeyer and Greg Johnson. There were no recommendations. A suggestion was made to keep membership records relative to dues paid. Deb felt she could update Google Sheets.

Membership Report

Ron reports Chiropractor Karen Dornman is a new sponsor
total members: 128
38 individuals
71 families
16 sponsors
3 donors

Training and Maintenance Committee Report

Ron (for Jake) reports contract mandated trimming training was held on 5-1-22 for 5 trainees.
Fixed string-trimming schedules to be set for Weds mornings and Sundays.
Ron shared a copy of the Maintenance Volunteer Waiver and Release.
Flail mower expected soon
Mowing starts this week for North Chatham.

Earth Day Trail clean-ups went well with thanks to Kinderhook Scout troop #113. There were 22 volunteers. Also Chatham Scouts turned out 11 volunteers on 5-1-22 for Chatham section clean-up. Greenport section TBA.

Gardening Committee: Carol Corrigan, Chair this Committee, reports a two part plan for the Gardeners. One is to have advisors who will confer on placement and types of native flowers. The next is organizing volunteers to plant and maintain perennials. They will begin small with 4-5 places. She has a promise of a donation of Milkweed plants from the Monarch Club.

Grant Updates

Ron, as authorized in November 2021, requested funding for 8 benches from Parks and Trails NY. Official award announcements expected later in May 2022.

Events

Robin reported on Hudson Area Library Opening planned for 5-7-22 at 3-5pm for a display of AHET trail sign panels. Historian Matt Kierstead will speak there on 5-26-22.

The Hudson Library is also planning a children's Bike Tour on the Trail.

Farmers Markets: They are outdoors starting in May at both Kinderhook and Hudson. Ron plans to table and seeks volunteers.

There is a Stuyvesant Community Day at the VFW 5-14-22 6:30-8pm. We are welcomed to table.

World Bicycle Day: June 4, 2022 in Kinderhook

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.

Other events: Ron hopes for an event at the Stuyvesant Falls Hydro Plant. He will be in touch with Jim Basha at Albany Engineering for a possible Fall event.

Public Comments: Rod Scharoun said he likes to pick up trash on the trail but asked where to dispose of mostly beverage containers. Lee suggested he use the Library's CLYNK bags which are free on the front entrance. He and Ann thought it would be a good idea.

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

Next Meeting

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

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Jamison