



Simon Kenton Pathfinders



Minutes from Membership Meeting at Urbana Depot

Thursday, June 3, 2021 7:00 p.m.

The monthly membership meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by President Jim Cook.

Attendance: Jim Cook, Ward Lutz, Carmen Scott, Nancy Lokai-Baldwin, Pete Keaton, Tamisha Matus (guest), Dave Martin, David Case, Dorothy Case, Ken Davis, Janine Albert-Evans, Dave Chivington, Doug Crabill, Dave Jensen, Dianne Burroughs, Joe Curran (guest).

Agenda: Ward Lutz made the motion to accept the revised tentative agenda as presented, Dave Jensen seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

Announcements: Jim reported that several groups are planning to use the trail soon. On June 5 there is a church-sponsored 5K and the Healthy Kids Day at Melvin Miller Park and the YMCA. On June 6, there is the OSU Alumni Scholarship Bike Ride. He reminded all that the trail is public and open to all for hosting events. However, several events occurring on the same day may lead to congestion in our parking lots, restrooms, and service delays at The Depot. (This matter was discussed further during our open forum.)

Reports:

President: No update was given by Jim Cook.

Secretary: Doug Crabill, substituting as Secretary for Dianne Burroughs, presented minutes for the May membership meeting. A correction was suggested, changing the North Trail mention of State Route 507 to State Route 508. Additions were given to the flower pot report, adding contributions made by Janine Albert-Evans, Dorothy Case, Donna Gainer, and Dianne Burroughs to the planting, watering, and maintenance. Nancy Lokai-Baldwin made the motion to accept the May membership minutes as corrected, David Case seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer: Janine Albert-Evans reported our Perpetual checking operating account balance was \$53,055.27, the northern extension balance was \$29,045.78, and the board-designated savings for future maintenance balance was \$88,851.70 as of June 2, 2021. Johnson Welded Products recommended that the Dayton Foundation grant us \$5,000. The Champaign Community Fund has donated \$2,000. Honda's pledge to us of \$750 has not yet been received. Ward Lutz made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as prepared, Nancy Lokai-Baldwin seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

Website: Doug Crabill informed us that the April and May membership minutes would soon be added to our website, along with a trail map.

Facebook: No update was provided by Jim Cook.

Membership: Nancy Lokai-Baldwin stated that she hasn't received information on new memberships. This procedure was clarified: Janine receives and deposits this money, passing the contact information to Jim Cook for the sending out of thank-you letters, and then he sends it to Nancy for record-keeping.

Maintenance Committee:

- **North Trail:** Carmen Scott reported that it has been mowed twice and weeds will be sprayed soon. There are @10 new holes on the trail that are caused by chipmunks. Todd repaired a few of them last year, but it is a labor-intensive project for 1-2 people to do alone. Todd put money in the budget for this, but if more money is needed, we can take it from the maintenance budget. The farm equipment holes were (more easily) repaired.

The Amish buggy problem on State Route 508 and the entrance to West Liberty (as reported last month) has been addressed with new signs that state “No Horses.”

An anonymous rider reported to the Logan County Dog Warden that a black dog attacked him recently at the house on the west corner of Lippincott Road. Jim Cook told us that calling the dog warden or 911 is the proper procedure in this situation. Members David Case and Dianne Burroughs also reported having problems with this dog barking threateningly and chasing us on the trail.

- **Urbana City:** No update was provided by Dave Jensen. Jim Cook found foul graffiti spray painted at the top of the trail. Carmen stated he will spray paint over it.
- **South:** Ward Lutz reported that boom mowing was just finished for this Spring. We are contracted to have this done twice a year. The boom mower recommended that he could move the brush all the way back to the power poles if we so desired. Jim will look into this. Ward reminded us that the quarterly trail counter data will be collected at the end of June.
- **Depot:** Doug Crabill reported that he plans to do landscape maintenance around the Depot soon: spraying for weeds, scraping off moss, mulching, and pruning shrubbery. He also reported that the city has fixed the broken fence section that had been hit by a car. He reminded us that the city had Superior Painting paint the doors and window trim last year, and that we would like the eaves painted this year. Jim Cook reported that SKP has paid to have the two water spigots fixed, making it more convenient for volunteers to water the 24 flower pots that have been recently planted. One spigot key is in the Depot and another is being stored in our locker. We have been advised that Limb Beaver work should be done after a heavy frost to avoid inadvertently damaging unseen power lines and leaving leaves on the trail. Also, spraying for invasive honeysuckle should be done in the late Fall, too.
- **Grant update on application for trail blower:** No update was provided by Jim Cook.

Old Business:

- **Crack sealing update/timeline:** Jim Cook reported that crack sealing the trail from County Line Road to the Urbana Airport and the YMCA will happen in August at a cost of @\$17,000. Trail users must not be permitted on the trail during the process; but, weather permitting, the sealant dries in 30-40 minutes.
- **St. Paris Bike Rodeo:** Jim Cook reported that he set up our table and display board during this event. There were @3 dozen kids in attendance. Free bike helmets and rehabbed bikes were given away.
- **Village of West Liberty updates:** Jim Cook reported that West Liberty held their dedication of the Sherman Ricketts Park on May 15. Dianne Burroughs asked if it was volunteers from West

Liberty who put up the five bicycles that are attached to existing signage on the north trail. These “bicycles” are colorfully painted and show mileage to West Liberty or to Urbana and have friendly encouraging comments. Many thanks to our Carmen Scott for this wonderful addition to our trail!

- **2021 Simon Kenton Bike Tour:** Jim Cook reported that the bike ride registration will be done all on-line this year, but that we could also send postcards out to past participants. The SKP Board needs to meet on this ASAP.

New Business:

- **Healthy Kids Day/YMCA June 5th:** Nancy Lokai-Baldwin, Dianne Burroughs, and Dorothy Case volunteered to represent the SKP from 11-2:00 at this event at Melvin Miller Park.
- **Trail Clean-up @June 7-10:** The Renewed Strength Church youth have volunteered to have a clean-up day on our trails. Dave Martin volunteered to represent us overseeing this event.
- **MVRPC Trail Count:** The Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission will be holding a trail count in Champaign County some time in August, and we are asked to provide volunteers to help with the hands-on questioning. Two locations – County Line Road and the Depot – will be required and it must be done twice – on both a weekday and a weekend. This information is used for PR purposes and for writing grants, and it is done by every trail group in every county.
- **July Meeting Date:** Usually our meeting would be June 1st, as it is the first Thursday of the month; but, being that this is the start of the July 4th holiday weekend, it was asked if members wished to move our meeting to the 8th. It was decided unanimously that we keep our next meeting date at July 1st.

Open Forum:

- We have never coordinated use of the Depot or our trails in the past with outside groups. The problem is when multiple groups wish to use it on the same day, causing parking and restroom problems for them and for ordinary trail users. It was suggested that signage might help – signs that informed people who to call for reservations, like is used at parks to reserve picnic tables.
- Pete Keaton donated three large caution signs to us to be used on roads during the SKP bike ride. Thank-you, Pete!
- Joe Curran (guest) expressed his wish for a bike trail in western Champaign County.
- Janine Albert-Evans informed us that our master plan will be updated in the next six weeks. Anyone with suggestions with links that could be included should contact Janine.

Adjournment: Pete Keaton made a motion to adjourn, Dave Jensen seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Dianne Burroughs, Secretary