

Friends of the Macomb Orchard Trail

Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, January 24, 2006

- Meeting is called to order.
- A motion is made by Marty Osborne and seconded by Rich Platz to accept November agenda. The November minutes will be tabled until March. The October minutes were handed out.
- Presentation of the Lupus Ride by Chuck Pottenger – The ride will be Sunday, May 21, and it will start in Stoney Creek Park. The distances of the ride are 50K and 100K. They are asking to use parts of the trail out of the park and possibly have a rest stop at Wolcott. They will supply refreshments, however, they are looking for approval and volunteers. We advise them they need to talk to the Trail Commission for approval. We do say we can help with volunteers along the trail. Chuck Mabley says the T.C. just approved a 10K run in April so there shouldn't be a problem. The length of time needed for volunteers was asked about. The ride organizers would like to set it up so that no one needs to spend more than 2-3 hours. The time of the event will be from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the very latest.
- President's report by Dennis Tipsword - Chuck Mabley and Dennis Tipsword met with John Crumm and Camille Silda to interview fundraising groups. These groups would help to raise the money for the M-53 Trail Overpass. The more this committee discussed and thought about hiring of a group they decided it might not be in the best interest financially. The groups that were interviewed were looking for a long term commitment where the immediate need is just for one project.
- Martha Nitz sends us a kind correspondence.
- Treasurer's report by Chuck Mabley shows an end of the month of November balance of \$5,498.25 and December balance of \$5, 513.39. Motion made by Rich Platz to approve the report. Seconded by John Tarantino and accepted.
- Richmond Ice Festival is asking for a \$100 donation. Talk of saving money and putting it towards the Good Old Days Festival led to a motion by Marty Osborne and seconded by Rich Platz to not donate this year to save money.
- Covered bridge report (Neil Kocsis):
 - Neil was able to get a hold of an engineer who is making a few changes to the design. Then the blueprint will be sent off to another firm for facing and covering designs, and then returned back.
 - The PDF will come back to Neil soon, hopefully.
 - Lumber cost will possibly be free.
- Trail Commission Meeting:
 - Re-elected president for another year.
 - Adopted guidelines.
 - Richmond presented plan for Richmond trailhead. The amount of \$26,000 was approved and given to Wade Trim to get started. TIFA will be providing \$200,000 towards improvements such as bathrooms and trailhead construction. Plan was approved for project.
 - Former site of Johnny Appleseed will have a trail center. There was discussion on parking lot drainage.

*Prepared and respectfully submitted by Christine Hamilton
FMOT Secretary*

- The American House at 27 Mile and Van Dyke asked about trail access.
- The M-53 bridge project will cost \$1.4 million. The county must come up with \$250,000.
- Engineer update is that they will be meeting with MDOT next week.
- The HCMA is maintaining trail again. They will be buying new equipment for this purpose.
- The framework for a license schedule was discussed.
- Chuck Mabley gave brief update on fundraising. He also told them that the FMOT will participate at the Parks and Rec. Convention on February 16 at the Ren. Cen.
- There will be a 10K run on the trail starting at the Glacier Club.
- The next Trail Commission meeting will be February 28.
- There is more discussion on the hiring of a fundraising group and how it is premature for us to make a decision regarding it.
- Membership Update – Dave Rumohr reports that we have just about 40 people paid up.
- Newsletter – Ted Gondert says that the next newsletter will be the April edition.
- Historian – Rich Platz reports there is “No new history.”
- Election – The results are to re-elect all the candidates (Marty Osborne, Dennis Tipsword, and John Tarantino). Chuck Mabley makes a motion to keep the board as is which is seconded by Dave Rumohr and approved.
- Activities and Events –
 - A suggestion is made that to sponsor rides, such as the Lupus Ride, give the trail good exposure.
 - The Romeo Festival is coming up. We need to verify the date.
 - There will be activities surrounding the construction of the covered bridge and Trail Clean-up Days. The Good Old Days Festival is also a possibility.
 - Activity ideas should be presented as they arise.
 - Should we have a special fundraising meeting?
- Remember to use the discount made available to Friends of the Macomb Orchard Trail group at Hamilton Bicycles in Richmond.
- Meeting adjourned. Motion made by Marty Osborne and seconded by Rich Platz.

Next official meeting is Tuesday, March 28, 2006 at Camp Rotary.

Attendance (*Indicates board member)

Chuck Pottenger	Marty Osborne*
Paul Wilhelm	Neil Kocsis
Ted Gondert	Christine Hamilton*
Al Goetzinger	
Art Crawford	
Lee Rumohr	
John Tarantino*	
Rich Platz*	
David Rumohr*	
Chuck Mabley*	
Dennis Tipsword*	

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