

Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, May 27, 2008

- Meeting is called to order. Welcome guests.
- A motion is made by Rich Platz and seconded by Al Goetzinger to accept March, 2008 meeting minutes.
- President's report (Dennis Tipsword)
 - Dennis has received correspondence from users of the trail
 - He talked to Anthony Casasanta about Wade Trim's decision to close the Powell Rd. bridge over the Clinton River due to it being structurally unsafe.
 - There is a feasibility study being done regarding the gravel issue on the trail.
- Treasurer's report sent in by Chuck Mabley for the month of March gives an end of month balance of \$5,228.50. April's end of month total is \$5,434.59. Rich Platz makes a motion to accept and is seconded by Christine Hamilton.
- Trail Commission Meeting highlights :
 - Construction should be done on the M-53 pedestrian bridge by the end of August.
 - There is an issue with graffiti on the trail. Rich Platz was saying he has noticed that people are doing their best to clean it up by painting over it. It is predicted that this will be an on going issue.
 - Powell bridge issue is discussed. There is inner deterioration of the columns.
 - ITC update is that no one will respond from ITC and there will be more discussion regarding issue of the trees.
 - Dennis Tipsword received correspondence (through Chuck Mabley) from Jill Smith (Assistant Corp. Counsel to the Macomb Government) noting that as of May 15, ITC doesn't have permission to access the MOT to spray herbicide. This is not considered to be vegetative management.
 - There should be progress on the roadside park at 32 Mile and Van Dyke as soon as MDEQ does a soil quality test on the property.
 - Eagle Scouts have planned for 8 benches. The wrong style was ordered from the set style. Discussion on doing deviating benches took place.
 - FMOT update mentioned the covered bridge and the memorial bike racks.
 - Richmond and Lenox EMS were doing training on the trail.
 - Bathrooms have been erected along the trail at Ridge Park near Strikers and at 24 Mile east of Dequindre.
 - Talk about maintenance contract going with someone other than HCMA.
 - More maps to be printed.
 - Al Goetzinger participated in the public response on what Armada community is doing for trail. He brought up the horse trail subject again.
 - Mentioned that Washington Days Pancake Breakfast is at the Senior Center not the Fire Hall.
- Covered bridge report (Neil Kocsis):
 - Received a call from someone that heard we needed steel. He is checking with lawyers and discussing with Kirsch about the waiver/ or disclaimer on liability.
- Historian (Rich Platz) – He got a hold of the scout master of James Murphy to discuss the placement of the map boxes. There are 4 already up.
- Newsletter – None
- We have an idea to be a little more visible and hold the summer meetings along the trail. June's meeting will be located at the Ross Memorial Barn near West Rd. In July we will meet at Richmond's trail head. August's meeting will be decided based on the success of the previous two meetings.
- Questions came from the guests regarding the trails that will connect 24 Mile to Freedom Hill, who is the MTC, restrooms, construction, and trash cans being nearer the benches.
- We received a visit from contractors that are working on a drainage issue along the trail. Wrong meeting!
- Motion to adjourn made by Rich Platz and seconded by Al Goetzinger. Meeting adjourned.

Next official meeting is Tuesday, June 24, 2008 at the Ross Memorial Barn near West Rd.

Attendance (*Indicates board member)

Dennis Audet
Neil Kocsis
Al Goetzinger
Jane Heffner
Rich Platz*

Dennis Tipsword*
Christine Hamilton*

*Prepared and respectfully submitted by Christine Hamilton
FMOT Secretary*