

Friends of the Macomb Orchard Trail
Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, January 27, 2009

- Meeting is called to order.
- We need to locate who took the minutes at the last meeting, October of 2008. There was no November or December meeting due to weather and family obligations. By-pass minutes at this time.
- Approve agenda
- President's report (Dennis Tipsword)
 - We received notification from Chuck Mabley that he will be stepping down from his position on the FMOT board.
 - Received a note of support from an avid rider of the trail, Ray Cavaliere of Washington. He informed us that he has become a member of the Macomb County Sheriff Office Bike Office, Bicycle Unit Reserve. They were having a meeting that was going on the same time as ours.
- Chuck Mabley sent all necessary paperwork for audit and latest treasurer's report. We are ending the month of December, 2008 with a balance of \$5,195.63. Motion to accept was from Dave Rumohr and seconded by John Tarantino.
- There was much discussion regarding the future of the Friends of the Macomb Orchard Trail.
 - Some thoughts were that we feel "burnt out" after 10 years and feel there needs to be some "new blood" taking over the group.
 - Many feel that we would like to see the Friends group have more of a say at the Trail Commission meetings, possibly with a voting position on the board.
 - As of right now Dennis Tipsword says he will stay until April as chairman. We will wrap things up with the group in February and March, such as Teddy's Memorial and the Friend's group moneys. Lee Rumohr would like to see that it goes to a Michigan based trail commission.
 - We feel that the lack of our group will then mean no users' voices will be represented on the commission.
 - Al Goetzinger had a list of ideas that he shared with the group regarding what he would like to see the FMOT enact including: more personal contact with members, posting on signboards, moving meetings to communities along the trail, change the meeting time to be right before the TC meetings, encourage more volunteers, create scenic spots along trail, and have short notes in the newsletter from users of the trail and from each of the communities.
- Dennis will put a letter about our disbanding to share with the Trail Commission.
- Christine will work with Al to put together a flyer that will encourage feedback and new ideas from the membership. This will be sent out.
- We realize we've become a bit of a "complaint department" when it comes to the trail. This year there will not be the parks and recreation support as before because of budget issues.
- Trail Commission Report – (Al Goetzinger)
 - Elections were held
 - HRC, a new contractor, is looking at the stone foundations on the bridges
 - Romeo park is being pursued
 - February 17 is next meeting at 8:30 a.m.
- Meeting adjourned.

Next official meeting is Tuesday, February 24, 2009 at Camp Rotary.

Attendance (*Indicates board member)

Lee Rumohr

Rich Platz*

Dave Rumohr*

Al Goetzinger

Dennis Tipsword*

Christine Hamilton*

John Tarantino*

*Prepared and respectfully submitted by Christine Hamilton
FMOT Secretary*