

# Friends of the Macomb Orchard Trail

## Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, October 26, 2005

- Meeting is called to order.
- A motion is made by Rich Platz and seconded by Dave Rumohr to correct spelling errors in last month's minutes and be accepted.
- Treasurer's report by Chuck Mabley shows an end of the month of September balance of \$5,546.95. Motion made by Marty Osborne to approve the report. Seconded by Rich Platz and accepted.
- President's report by Dennis Tipsword says that there will be a fundraising meeting including John Crumm, Jill Smith, and Camille Silda to scope out fundraising possibilities.
- We do need to get approval for separate account for money raised in fundraiser. Chuck Mabley suggests a formal approval by the Friends group to focus on fundraising. Our involvement may be increasing exposure to raise awareness for Phase II and III.
- Motion is made by Chuck Mabley for the Friends group to work with the Trail Commission and county to hire a fundraising firm. There was discussion over concerns with the amount of money and long term commitment to raise money for trail enhancement. Motion is seconded by Rich Platz and carried.
- FMOT will supply \$500 in seed money to set up an account to get effort going. This motion is made by Rich Platz and seconded by Marty Osborne.
- Chuck Mabley, representing Richmond, and Dennis Tipsword met with Engineering firm and were told that construction on Richmond end will run about \$2.7 million for the project. The horse trail will run from just east of Powell to Lowe Plank.
- October dedication went well. The pavilion and bathrooms will go in next year.
- Covered bridge report (Neil Kocsis):
  - Email was sent of proposed bridge plan
  - Anthony Casasanta will be contacted to verify the look of the covered bridge design.
  - At this time we are not sure if donations of lumber will be needed or if construction company will supply.
  - Neil Kocsis is to be commended for all the work and contacts he has put in to make all this possible. He says his main goal is for it to look like an authentic covered bridge.
- Trail Commission Meeting:
  - Engineers are doing formal presentations
  - Number of parts of projects approved.
  - A few bridges are right under the width requirement of MDOT. A few of the short bridges will be converted into culverts to save money.
  - There were reports of bridges and their costs.
  - Bridge railings had a number of proposals demonstrated with pictures. Care is being taken to save money and keep natural look of trail.
  - Crushed limestone will be used unless the member community wants to pay for the paving.
  - Told that FMOT will approve participation in fundraising. Way Trim will supply the format.
- Phase II will begin in the spring of 2006 in hopes to be complete by the fall. There is some waiting going on because of MDOT approvals.
- Membership Update – Dave Rumohr reports that we have just about 70 people paid and are mailing to 122.
- Newsletter – Ted Gondert needs everyone to take a look at the draft.
- Historian – Rich Platz just got in some of the latest articles and is moving along.

- Nominations – Christine will verify who is up for election in 2006.
- 2006 Meetings will happen in January, take a break in February, continue March through November, and then no December meeting. A motion for this schedule was made by Chuck Mabley and seconded by Marty Osborne. Motion passed.
- Activity ideas for 2006 include covered bridge project, Peach and Apple Festivals, and possibly Good Old Days. More ideas are needed.
- Dennis Tipsword will reserve the room for our meetings.
- Dave Rumohr makes a motion for FMOT to buy subscription to local papers as a resource for Rich Platz. Maybe they will donate? Rich Platz will find out which ones he needs. It is suggested that the Romeo Observer is online. Motion is seconded by Marty Osborne and passed to supply Rich with subscriptions that are needed.
- Chuck Mabley will be meeting with Al Goetzinger to take over control of T-shirts to ease delivery of them.
- Meeting adjourned. Motion made by Rich Platz and seconded by Chuck Mabley.

*Next official meeting is Tuesday, November 22, 2005 at Camp Rotary.*

Attendance (\*Indicates board member)

Lee Rumohr

Dave Rumohr\*

Marty Osborne\*

Dennis Tipsword\*

Chuck Mabley\*

Rich Platz\*

Neil Kocsis

Al Goetzinger

Ted Gondert

Lee Tait

Christine Hamilton\*