

MEETING MINUTES FRIENDS of the PANHANDLE PATHWAY Inc.

Board of Directors, Officers:

John Bawcum, President/BoD
 Steve Crosby, Vice President
 Kathy Kegarise, Treasurer
 Tom Anspach, Secretary/BoD
 Mike O Conner, BoD
 Ron Sumshauser, BoD

Meeting Date: Tuesday 3/30/2010 eve

Location: Town Municipal Building (PCCDC)

Attendance:

Rex Allman (Winamac); Tom Anspach (Winamac); John Bawcum (Winamac); Steve Crosby (Headlee); Jason Jordon (Royal Center); Kathy Kegarise (Kewanna); Willis Kesling (Royal Center); (Bryan McKinney (Winamac); Steve McKinney (Winamac); Max MeMetzger (Royal Center); Mike O'Conner (Winamac); Ron Simshauser (Winamac); Larry Spiewak (Monterey); Nancy Spiewak (Monterey);

Called to Order-

- o Meeting called to order at about 6:30 p.m. by John Bawcum, President.

Regular Business

- o Previous minutes- 2/23/2010 minutes were approved as written.
- o Treasurer's/Budget report-

Friends of the Panhandle Pathway							
Treasurers Report -March 2010							
Alliance Bank		1st Nat'l Monterey		PCCF		PCCF	
Checking Account		Money Market		Pass Through		Growth Fund	
Beg. Balance	\$2,923.59	Beg. Balance	\$189,770.67	Beg. Balance	\$3,868.36	Beg. Balance	\$3,600.00
Deposits	\$100.00			Deposits		Deposits	
Reimb RTP	\$34,427.16						
Interest	\$0.00	Interest Pct 3-4-101.85%23	\$269.32				
Void Ck #225	\$250.00	Reimb RTP transfer	\$33,748.81				
Withdrawals		Withdrawals		Disbursements			
Interest sent back	\$678.35	ck to PC Treasurer		Insurance	\$1,065.00		
Transfer to MM	\$33,748.81	#002	\$40,000.00				
JT's Shirt Shack	\$19.00						
End. Balance	\$3,254.59	End. Balance	\$183,788.80	End. Balance	\$2,803.36	End. Balance	\$3,600.00
Total							
Operating	\$6,057.95						
State	\$183,788.80						
Endowment	\$3,600.00						

- The 5/09 \$225 un-cleared check to the SBT for rail banking transfer fee has been voided. It was determined by Tod Groff that the fee was not required, and the check was returned, probably to ITF.
- 3rd and final Insurance invoice was received \$1775 (BoD/Officers liability). It will be paid from the PCCF pass through account.
- IRS 990 will be prepared and submitted by the May Due date.
- A check was written to Ron S for approx \$9.00 for bench mounting. The Hitch Bracket fabrication was donated by Braun Corp (value approx \$40)
- A very nice card was received from Mindy & Kevin Shidler thanking us for the very nice trail, along with a donation of \$50.00. To be deposited in the Checking account (20% to go to the Endowment fund).
- The interest included by mistake, from DNR as part of the closing reimbursement was returned, and this final reimbursement was transferred to the Money Market (State Money) account. This closes the RTP Grant Program.

- A \$40,000 check was written out to the Pulaski County Treasurer for the ARRA Escrow account to pay the Construction Inspector. These expenditures will be reimbursed by INDOT, after which the money will be returned to the Money Market account.
- The Insurance invoices were paid. One remaining.
- Membership was renewed in Land Trust Alliance \$250.
- Summary

Old Business

Action Items from Last Meeting

1. Contact Dawn Kroh (or Tod Groff if necessary) for guidance on un-cleared \$225 Railbanking check (5/09) to SBT. (Kathy K). Completed
2. Contact PCCF to prepare to write a check from Pass Through Account for insurance premiums, approx same as last year. Due by 3/13. (Kathy K) Completed
3. Set up a Bylaws Committee & develop recommendations for the next meeting- 3/30. (TomA) Completed
4. Develop Signs on the Trail Policy document (PubCom) Completed
5. Determine how much area is required and develop purchase/lease offer for obtaining path to Depot (Mike O) Completed
6. Convert the Vulcan stone sign into a FoPP banner for secondary use (hang on the TRBridge railing). (Ron S) Banner completed, Will be installed at 1st opportunity.
7. Investigate the possibility (technical/cost) of using the Vulcan stone by extending the Path to the north end property line. (Ron S) Postponed.

Operations Committee (Name?)

[Safety, Maintenance and Management- (includes insurance coordination of safety patrol and safety plans and development of a maintenance plan and budget)]

- Ordinance for trail usage to be brought before the next County Commission Meeting.

Public Relations Committee & Planning and Fundraising Relations (Vicki Byrd)

[All publicity and promotion activities (may include press releases, web site, trail brochure and map, t-shirt/hat sales, booth at fairs and festivals etc)].[Obtain funding – private and public for current and future trail projects (application for and administration of grants, coordination with project sponsor/funders and solicitation of private gifts, memberships) –

- The Sign drafted sign policy was discussed by Max Metzger. Talks were held with local historians. Concepts for preparing signs with historical and informational information resulted. Logansport hospital will do the graphics. 'Indestructible, long life, signs are expected to cost about \$3,000. The sign policy was discussed, including commercial vs civic sponsorships. Minor adjustments were made.
 - A motion was made to accept the resulting policy, it was seconded and approved. The policy will be added to the Policy Manual, and included in these minutes.
- ☛ The sponsorship cost/donation and commercial vs civic sponsorships for signs has yet to be determined. (Pub/Fin Com)

Land Acquisition Committee – (Name?)

[Acquisition of all property for trail trailheads etc. includes review of documents one-on-one discussions with property owners preparation of deed title work etc. assuring title is properly transferred etc.]

- Letters are being prepared to acquire a path from the North End of the PP to the Town Property. After review by the BoD the content of the letters were approved by the BoD for Mike O to proceed with the next step of drafting up the letters.

Construction Committee – (Ron Simshauser)

[Coordination of construction activities and approval of requests from contractors for payment (this includes working with the segment coordinators as needed to make sure everyone is clear on the scope of construction)]

- The plan to clear, grade and spread compacted the Vulkan limestone between 150N and the north end of the RoW was reviewed. Stacey Big Dig recommended 4 inch thick Limestone. The result was, yes we would like to do it, let's get some estimates the motion was made to go as far as we can with the stone that we have. Following 2 action items resulted. It was decided not to try to make a gravel/limestone path from the pathway to Oak Street in Star City.. This should fall under State program, although it needs to be reviewed with DNR prior to spending money.
 - ☛ Get an estimate from DeSabatine (Mike O)
 - ☛ Get an estimate from Ezra (Steve C)
- ARRA
 - There will be an ARRA Construction progress meeting on Friday April 9th 10AM at the Construction Trailer
 - ARRA progress, of Clearing, Grubbing and grading is well underway. The pathway is pretty much cleared the entire length. Now is a good time to get RR ties and cut up down trees before Linear Grading and paving is completed.

- There are about 4 items of changes in the ARRA plan, 1- the 'Sac' will be moved slightly to minimize tree cutting and fill requirements, 2 – the trail head at 50N reduced and changed somewhat to accommodate curved fence line and possibly reduce the amount of paving, 3- the shifting of the trail alignment to the west at Thornhope (possible movement of the power line pole is being considered with NIPSCO . . . moving slowly like a 'knot on a cowpie', 4- There is a washout on Indian Creek bridge needs to be repaired (a method of repair has been determined).
- RTP is all closed out, and reporting will discontinue.

New Business

- Thankyou notes were prepared and signed for Joe Dits for his nice 3/28 South Bend Travel section front page article about the Pathway, and to the Shidlers for their thankyou note and donation.
- Steve McKinney (Winamac) Scout Leader, Bryan McKinney (Winamac); Eagle Scout applicant were seeking ways to do an Eagle Scout project on the pathway. Much discussion followed with generally the following results.
 - Keep these projects separate from the Sponsorship list
 - Generally types could be: beautify bench area, flag pole, steps from TRBridge North down to DNR Access Site, Canopy over bench's, Bicycle Rodeo, etc.
 - Coordinate with Rex Allman, the FoPP Boy Scout project coordinator and make presentation to the Operations Committee, and the BoD for approval.
- Jason Jordon (Royal Center) requested, that he be able to remove 2 signal boxes for his personal nostalgia use (he used to work on the Rail Road). A motion was made, seconded, passed that Jason could remove the 2 signal boxes at his convenience.
- Meeting on March 17th at the TRState Park (John B, Dawn Kroh, Kevin Snyder, Don Good, Steve C, Jim Conner) Conclusion was, good idea connecting to State Park, recommend go down East side of US35 (no ditch), Grants RTP, RTP applications due May 1st 2010. After BoD discussion of timing it was decided that we had too much on our list at the moment further effort would be delayed until 2011.
- John B and Dave Bennett reported on their visit with the Peoria RR personnel (Peoria IL), on 2/23, to discuss the possibility of using RR RoW as a path from the Southern end of the Pathway to France Park. It was a good interchange meeting and the Peoria RR will investigate it further. Have not heard any response will continue to contact.
- ☛ Contact Peoria RR for future talks. (John B)
- The ByLaws Committee (Tom Anspach, John Bawcum, Kathy Kegaris recommended the following changes to the ByLaws-
 - Bylaws Change
 - ARTICLE V
 - Board of Directors
 - Section 5.1. Election, Number and Term of Office.
 - 2nd para
 - **WAS:** The number of Directors of the Corporation to be elected by the members entitled by the Articles of Incorporation to elect Directors shall be five (5) unless changed by amendment of this section.
 - **IS:** The number of Directors of the Corporation to be elected by the members entitled by the Articles of Incorporation to elect Directors shall be a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of seven (7).
 - 3rd Para
 - **WAS:** All Directors elected by the members, except in the case of earlier resignation, removal or death, shall hold office until their respective successors are chosen and qualified. Directors need not be members of the Corporation.
 - **IS:** All Directors elected by the members, except in the case of earlier resignation, removal or death, shall hold office until their respective successors are chosen and qualified. Directors shall be members of the Corporation.

A motion was made, seconded and passed by the BoD to incorporate these changes into the Bylaws. The revised bylaws were signed by the BoDirectors (4).

- As a result of the Bylaws review a Policy document was prepared describing the dues requirements of the organization. After discussion the policy was developed as follows:
 - Dues Motion
 - Dues are \$20 per fiscal year (Jan 1 - Dec 31)
 - Initial dues paid during the last quarter of the year (i.e. Oct 1 - Dec 31) are good for the next year.
 - Dues for the current year are due by the end of the 1st Quarter.

- Membership applications and certificates can be for Families or individuals.
- Clarification of family membership, if needed, shall be determined by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. President abstaining in case of a tie vote.
- There is only 1 vote per membership
- A membership certificate will be issued after acceptance, by the BoD, of application and dues
- Sealed and signed membership certificate will be deactivated 2 years after the last active membership year.
- A deactivated certificate cannot be re issued..

A motion was made, seconded, and passed approving the above. This Dues Policy will be added to the Manual.

- ⊗ A question came up as to what is the Liability insurance coverage of members. (Tom A)
- A discussion of moving the last Tuesday meeting to a different date. It was decided to leave it as scheduled, at least for the time being.

Events

- Earth Day- an Earth day clean up is scheduled as follows:

Event Name: Panhandle Pathway Celebrates Earth Day

Scheduled Date: 4/22/2010 , 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Information:

40th Anniversary of Earth Day in April, 2010

Come out and help 'spiff up' your trail

Bring rakes, clippers, cutters, shovels, brooms, trash bags, etc, or just yourself, kids welcome.

5PM to 7PM

Go to either the North Trail Head at 150S

or

to the Star City Trail Head at Key Street

Rain Date is Saturday 24th 9AM to 11AM

- T&BT August 14th
- Star City Celebration Bike Ride? August 28th

Documents for Filing

- 3/30/2010 Fopp Attendance

Next FoPP Meeting –

- **April Last Tuesday meeting: April 27th at 6:30PM at the PCCDC/Municipal Building**
- Operations Committee meeting Monday April 5:30PM (1st Monday of the month) PCCDC
- Publicity, Planning & Fund Raising Committee April 7 4:30PM PCCDC/Municipal Building

Other meetings

- Star City Sewer District March 15, 6:30PM
- Operations Committee April 5 6:30PM
- ARRA Construction Progress April 9th 10AM

Adjourn-

- Motion was made, seconded, passed to adjourn at about 9:30PM
Respectfully submitted by Tom Anspach *s/Tom Anspach*
Approved/Comments: This correction was made to the Dues motion at the 4/27 meeting.
Date: 4/2/2010

4- Information/directional signs on the Panhandle Pathway

Voted in by board of directors March 30, 2010

- ✓ There should be no more than 9 **informational** signs at present
- ✓ Signs provide historical content of area where sign is located
 - will include a "Sponsored by"
 - content will be provided by Historian/committee and approved by FoPP BoD
- ✓ Logos are not allowed
- ✓ Locations suggested are:
 - 1 at Winamac
 - 1 at Tippecanoe River
 - 1 at Mill Creek/Dead Man's Hollow
 - 1 at Star City
 - 1 at Thornhope
 - 2 at Royal Center
 - 1 at Ford's Crossing
 - 1 at Kenneth
- ✓ Signs should be similar or same as those on the River Bluff Trail in Cass County
 - 24 x 48 in size
 - cost (of signs) approx. \$3,000.
- ✓ There may be 3 **directional** signs
 - These are generic street maps of the three communities, Winamac, Star City, and Royal Center located at the beginning of the trail in that community
 - Includes map of streets (not necessarily needing names)
 - Includes X or other symbol locating generic comforts. i.e. food, drink, water, park, medical care
- ✓ Will include a "sponsored by" same as informational signs
- ✓ Logos are not allowed
- ✓ Civic organizations may submit a project that must be approved by the FoPP Board of Directors