

THE FERRY COUNTY RAIL TRAIL PARTNERS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2010

The meeting of the Board of Directors for THE FERRY COUNTY RAIL TRAIL PARTNERS was called to order at 6:30 pm, May 13, 2010 at The Old Fire Hall, Republic WA, the place designated for such meeting. The meeting was called upon at least two days' notice of the date, time, and place of the meeting. The following were present: Directors Bob Whittaker, Melissa Rose, Sarah Spark, and DiAnne Hewitt. Keith Bell arrived later, and Judie Cribby's proxy to Bob was acknowledged. Also present were Joann Marshall Hagaman and Barton Wert.

WELCOME, CHANGES TO AGENDA: Agenda was circulated, and additions made.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The Minutes of the March 28, 2010 Annual Meeting had been previously circulated, and suggested edits made. Melissa requested more time to offer edits. They were therefore not ratified at this time and will be presented either through email processes or at the next meeting.

Spark reported that, despite wanting to get the Bylaw revision completed, she and Melissa had not reviewed the Bylaws together, and that Board discussion might be useful on several items. She will circulate her suggested edits by email, and this item will be given time at the next meeting.

Correspondence (attached):

- There was an email from Carolla Nelson concerning activities on the trail near McKeen, with trees freshly cut & moved to a fire pit; Melissa will contact her to assist with proper reporting.
- A thank-you card was received from Patti Nagler, the winner of a t-shirt at the Conservation Fair.
- We received a request for funding from RCC: \$108.00 to purchase stop signs.
- A form letter from the Dept. of Revenue with updates and changes will be forwarded to Linell.
- A request for a receipt of a previously-made donation was made, and sent.
- An email from David Hodges was received asking why the Road Dept. was making significant improvements to Lundimo Mdws. Rd. and reporting increased traffic.
- Russell Nabor, a bicycling tourist, wrote requesting information on whether the trail's surface had been improved, suggesting we get money to fix it, and offering his commentary on its ride ability.

By consensus, it was decided to fund the \$108.00 purchase of stop signs, and Bob will follow up with the RCC regarding the payment process.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer DiAnne reported that we had \$538.71 in checking and \$1,431.99 in savings. She will be transferring \$200.00 to checking to cover the anticipated reimbursement to Keith for the computer purchase.

Melissa requested a \$10.00 reimbursement for the State's Annual Report filing fee. Spark requested the purchase of one ream of paper and an ink cartridge (HP 92 – black) to restock her personal supplies. Bob said to take a ream from the office; and the ink cartridge was never addressed. The topic of moneys to Spark regarding the grant writing workshop she attended was discussed, including the proposal she had made. After much discussion, the proposal was rejected and it was decided not to have a policy in place regarding travel expenses, other than all expenses must be pre-approved. Spark was given a check for \$40.00, representing 2 personal gifts which were inadvertently deposited into the corporate checking account. All were reminded of the purchasing policy as identified in the March 18 minutes; that whenever possible all purchase must be pre-approved.

DiAnne said that she is no longer carrying forward the \$149.92 discrepancy in that the records have remained constant for months; that figure is now part of our balances.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Outreach/Judie: Conservation Fair, April 17: This was reported to be a successful event. Judie may offer more at the next meeting.

Trail Development Committee: Although it had been previously decided to drop Trail Surface Adv. and Trail Development Committees from the Agenda, Spark expressed frustration that this subject has been continuously “tabled”, for various reasons depending upon the actions of others, for well over a year. To date, we still have no survey nor decent maps, despite commitments by several folks to see that task to completion. Bob said that a video was done by Jacob Tresham, as well as digital photos were taken, all of which had subsequently been turned over to the Commissioners and then been apparently lost.

Spark reported that, in order to get the project underway, she had begun work. She has a small list of volunteers to help with trail survey from the Annual Meeting, and, using the Trails for the 21st Century as a reference, created a Site Assessment Checklist and a Site Assessment form to use in surveying the trail. She then began testing these simple tools with an initial survey of the 1.59 mile walk from the Heron Creek crossing to Miyoko Pt., recording GPS readings on intersections, significant markers, wildlife refuge and wetlands along the way. She presented these documents with requests for suggestions, though no one reviewed them. It was agreed that having one knowledgeable group of people surveying the entire trail with ALO's taking part/ offering site specific information seems the best choice. It was noted that there are now

three documented attempts at surveying /documenting the trail with three different formats and varying results. It was said that templates should be available for such work. Bob and Keith will work on getting forms. Bob will also try to get Fred Wirt to fly Nils Larsen filming an aerial of the trail. No further mention of walking the trail laws made.

Research and Development: Keith reiterated that he will begin searching for surveying mapping templates.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on RCC: Stan Christie and Jim Schumacher have resigned from the Committee, and Randy Sage and Grant Tolton would be good candidates. With our purchasing the stop signs, once installed, the Commissioners could issue an ordinance, which has been drafted by the RCC to include horses and bicycles. The Golden Tiger Committee has rejected RCC's suggestion to exchange meeting minutes as being not in compliance with their Bylaws and Mission Statement. The RCC began working on its own Mission Statement.

Update on the Golden Tiger Pathway: Their last meeting was Tuesday, May 10, but no one was able to attend.

Safe Routes to School: Bob reported on Curlew's experience in the grant process, the actions, decisions and deception of the Commissioners, and the frustrations of that group because of events that resulted in a missed deadline. Stressed was the need to research and abide by every protocol as we look to future grants requiring commissioner support.

Grant Writing Workshop: Spark reported on the grant writing workshop she attended, and will circulate the agenda, handouts, and her paper on it for everyone's availability.

Membership: Melissa reintroduced the need to gather volunteers, and that membership is a vehicle to do so. There was again discussion on (1) how burdensome the tasks of maintaining a membership list and monitoring volunteers are; (2) the perception that a membership organization is a closed community; (3) the need for more people involved, as "workers" as well as board members; (4) new folks' involvement translates into personal investment in the project which in turn builds community; and (5) specific tasks with end-in-sight goals, compartmentalizing tasks into manageable portions is preferred. No decision was made to begin memberships.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tasks: As previously indicated in the March 18 and March 28 Minutes, Melissa will create a list of specific tasks we will need volunteers for. It is noted here that, as indicated in the March 18 Minutes, Keith had previously agreed to take on managing the mailing list.

New Grant Goals: Bob brought to our attention two grants he thinks we should apply for. The Board agreed. Spark will lead the new Grant Writing Committee and Joann agreed to serve on it with her. Thanks, Joann! Two priorities have been identified: (1) TE WSDOT Tri-county Grant, and (2) National Parks Rivers Trails Assistance Program which is not a grant.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: A ride up the Slocan is scheduled by the Sloc.Valley RT on Sunday; it's a poker run and several are interested in going.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be at 6:30 on June 17, 2010 at The Old Fire Hall in Republic.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah K.W. Spark, Secretary

TO DO:

- Melissa to complete her edits of Mins. of 3/28
- Spark to circulate 3/28 Mins for ratification
- Melissa to circulate her edits/suggested talking points of Bylaws
- Bob to research templates/ tools re trail survey
- Spark to circulate grant writing workshop docs
- Melissa to circulate her list of tasks
- Spark to begin grant writing processes