



**Friends of the Fred Meijer River Valley Rail Trail
Minutes: September 8, 2022 @ Saranac Depot**

- I. **Call to Order: Chair Ron Gunderson @ 6:13**
- II. **Board Members Present: Ron Gunderson, Lynn Mason, Mark Grieves, Mark Fritsma, Wayne Addis.**
- III. **Board Members Absent: Chad Farlee. Moved by Mark F. seconded by Mark G. to excuse Mr. Farlee. Motion carries 5-0.**
- IV. **Guests: Mr. Dean Gage**
- V. **Approval of Minutes: Postponed until next meeting.**
- VI. **Approval of Agenda: Moved by Wayne, seconded by Mark F. to approve the agenda. Motion carries 5-0.**
- VII. **Public Comment: None**
- VIII. **Treasurer Report: Chad submitted a written report which indicated that we are solvent and all bills are paid. We balance at \$63,748.88. We had an income of \$10,000. We had zero Lifetime or Yearly Memberships sold. We had expenses of \$19,243.45. Balance sheet is available for review. Bills: None reported.**
- IX. **Authority Report: The Board approved a motion which says that all recurring bills can be automatically paid and not have to first wait for Board approval. The inclusion of Heartland becoming part of the Board issue is currently on hold.**
- X. **Maintenance Report:**
 - **Approximately 35 fallen trees, due to the latest storm, were taken care of.**
 - **A punch list of about 20 items has been made and continues to be worked on.**
 - **Signs: many of the intersection signs have been completed. There are still some from the Grand River section yet to complete. The cost of these signs will come from the Meijer advance dollars. Some Caution and Yield signs for 2 easements have been ordered and approved by the DNR.**
 - **5 Culverts need to be extended. This issue should have been addressed during construction.**

- **Bike Repair Stations:** There were to be 4. Only 3 were received. Ron will get a quote for a fourth. Wayne moved and Mark G. seconded to approve the purchase of the station. Motion carries 5-0
- **Snyder Asphalt** used their paver to repair soft spots near 4 Mile. The cost was approximately \$800 and will come out of the \$30,000 from the DNR.
- There continues to be an issue with homeless people living on the trail.

XI. Events:

- End of Sept. Joe C. will be providing a non-profit event.
- Josh Thelan, The Right Door, will be holding a 5K to benefit the Food Pantry on Sept. 29.
- There will be a “Wizard of Oz” event on the Grand River section on Oct. 1.

XII. Unfinished Business: None

XIII. New Business: Discussion of a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony took place. It was agreed that spring would be a good time. Perhaps one in the north part of the trail and one in the southern part would be a good idea? Possibly using Jackson Landing and Saranac.

XIV. Public Comment: None

XV. Director Comments: Mark F. is looking for pictures of the benches. Wayne helped Ron take out some posts. It was much appreciated.

XVI. Adjournment: It was moved by Wayne and seconded by Ron to adjourn at 7:38. Motion carries 5-0.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2022.