

## Minutes

### Friends of the Blue Star Trail Board Meeting

August 20, 2015.

Present: Jeanne Van Zoeren, John Adams, Clark Carmichael, Sonia Hill, Jan Blaising

Minutes from meeting of July 23, 2015 were approved as distributed.

1. **Treasurer's report:** The estimated cash on hand is \$27,000. Net from bike tour of 8-15-15 is \$19,000 with receipts still outstanding. A check from a Chicago Foundation of \$3,000 was received. John does not anticipate the need for a financial review this year. Discussion of raffle ticket sales ensued and what would happen in event of not selling at least 100 tickets. See John's subsequent report of funds for August, 2015, which was emailed to board members.
2. **President's report:** Jeanne stated that she will be attending the annual meeting on October 1, 2015 in Grand Rapids of the West Michigan Trails and Greenways annual meeting and would like other board members to accompany her.

She also stated that Jim Sullivan has contacted staff to inquire about whether the West Michigan Trail Committee would be discussing other trails beyond the proposed Byron Center to K-zoo Trailway. The upshot from this group is that the Blue Star Trail is not a focus for them. Discussion ensued regarding possible representation to this group with George Franklin being proposed as ideal candidate. Sunny offered to contact him and see what his interest might be.

Jeanne distributed a projected revenue and expense worksheet and discussed the possibility of contacting additional area foundations and increased exposure with crowd funding which has been done in Ottawa County. October 15, 2015 is the date for a major grant proposal (\$50,000) presentation to the West Michigan Trails and Greenways Board of Directors.

She expressed concern regarding easement letters needed for Phase II construction from Baseline Road north to Beverly Shores. This process, which has been coordinated with Hurley-Stewart and Land Matters, is significantly behind schedule. John offered to schedule a meeting with this group to get some definite dates when this project will be completed.

3. **Community Information Sessions.** Sunny discussed projected community information sessions. FOTBST hopes to expand donor base and increase community awareness of BST goals with specific Saugatuck/Douglas residents offering to host meetings. Sunny

will continue discussion with a possible donor who has offered her home for a gala fund raising party scheduled for June 20, 2016.

4. John is a member of the Michigan Non-Profit Association group and indicated that he thinks this is a good avenue to gain information and exposure for FOBST group.
5. Meeting was concluded at 5:30 due to previous engagement of three board members.
6. Submitted by Jan Blaising.