

Friends of the Blue Star Trail

Meeting Minutes

June 26, 2013

Present: Jeanne Van Zoeren, John Adams, Julie Werkema, Sunny Hill

Minutes of the May meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report was submitted and approved.

President's Report: Jeanne discussed giving and donor recognition levels. Sunny and Jeanne met with Cynthia McKean, a local artist who would like to help with donor recognition. Cynthia is a sculptor. She will make a prototype of an original sculpture and then recreate it for various levels of donations. She would charge for materials only.

Sunny and Julie will research standards of giving and donation levels.

Work plan outline – At least (15) informational meetings will need to be set beginning in mid to late July. This will include the South Haven and Saugatuck areas. We will call potential hosts and then set an informational meeting and then prepare packets/slideshows, etc.

A meeting with the South Haven Historical society is scheduled for tomorrow.

Board member updates

Dave Dobreff is drafting a contract for the Allegan County Board of Commissioners.

Enhancement/Section 106 – John Adams reported that the Enhancement grants require an historical survey as required by the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO). There can be no interference with historic sites. He has engaged the South Haven and Saugatuck Historical Societies to assist in identifying any building that would be adversely affected. Five (5) potential structures were identified, two (2) of which may be issues. John walked the route with the DEQ and they identified one (1) area that could be problematic but that could be remedied by constructing the trail closer to the road. Our request for an Enhancement Grant is currently in the system and we have requested \$1.2 million.

John reported on the request for a solicitor's license for the quilt raffle. He has received one request for information and has had no further contact with the State of Michigan for several weeks.

Safe Schools – Jeanne and Julie will be attending a conference with Dr. Herrera on August 21st.

Bike Tour – Sponsorship is close to \$4,000. The goal now is to work on getting volunteers organized. Denise Adams will lead the volunteers. Denise will be meeting with Jim Van Buren to discuss plans.

They are also going out to existing rides to leave materials. Brochures will be reprinted with sponsor names included.

Discussion was had regarding 4th of July parades. Sunny will have her car in the Saugatuck 4th of July parade. All board/family and BST members are encouraged to participate.

Discussion was also had regarding specific projects and how leadership will be conducted on them. The consensus was as follows: The person responsible for the project is responsible for all decisions. They may take suggestions and recommendations but they are ultimately in charge of all aspects including financial decisions subject to corporate resolution guidelines and normal restrictions.

The next meeting is July 18 at 4:00 PM at Casco Township Hall.