

Friends of the Blue Star Trail

Meeting Minutes – October 17, 2013

Present: Jeanne Van Zoeren, Jim Van Buren, John Adams, Carol Leneway, Julie Werkema, Dave Dobreff

September 2013 minutes were approved following change of guilt to quilt.

Treasurer's Report – John filed the non-profit corporation update for the State of Michigan. Discussion followed regarding having note cards printed with the logo and adding a thank you magnet that Dave had previously designed and purchased to improve the exposure of the trail.

President's Report –

Jeanne discussed a new route for the trail which will save approximately \$50,000 because there will no longer be the same concerns for storm sewers, etc. The new route will proceed up 70th Street north of Glenn and will go through the south end of the Wau-Ke-Na nature preserve. There will also be a parking lot at the end. The Wau-Ke-Na Board passed this unanimously. The new route will be as follows: From 114th in Glenn, north on 70th, off road along 70th then trail at Wau-Ke-Na, return to 70th and north to 118th. The area on 118th will be a 5ft. road extension.

John Adams will contact Larry Brown at the Allegan County Road Commission regarding the right of way on 70th.

Jeanne followed up with Consumers Energy regarding the foundation grant request. It is currently under review. We did not receive a grant from Albermarle or Entergy.

Lisa Krupiarz has offered to make another quilt. This one will feature t-shirts from Saugatuck and Douglas. Julie will work on securing t-shirts. He suggested Sisters In Ink because we purchased Lakeshore Harvest Trail t-shirts from them.

The article highlighting the first quilt raffle in the South Haven Tribune was remarked upon. The consensus was that it was a very good article and very positive exposure for the trail.

A community information session is scheduled for Beverly Shores and Windcliff. It will be hosted by Mary Whiteford and Marjean Toledo.

Jeanne has a meeting scheduled with Saugatuck Township and Doug McIntosh for October 23rd to discuss the possibility of Saugatuck Township being the legal applicant for a DNR Trust Fund grant application.

Jeanne also advised that she intends to file the Enhancement TAP for 1.2 million on February 1, 2014. This grant requires almost a 100% match. It may be matched with other grant money. The maximum is \$300,000 per approved application.

John Adams has been working with Darrel Harden. He sent the 106 application in 10 days ago.

Dave Dobreff had no reports regarding Allegan County contracts at this time.

Capital Campaign – John and Sunny had two meetings in Ganges.

Liability Insurance – John is working on this.

Discussion followed about adding pictures of spots along the trail to the slide show presentation. This should give meeting participants some landmarks so they can better visualize the route of the future trail.

Carol Leneway discussed trail programs and shared information she has collected about the history of the West Michigan Pike and Blue Star Highway.

A membership/fundraising drive was discussed for the end of the year.

Next meeting November 21, 2013 4:00pm at Casco Township Hall.