

**Friends of the Blue Star Trail
Annual Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 21, 2017**

Present: Friends Present: Jeanne Van Zoeren, John Adams, Clark Carmichael, Jack Eisinger, Dan Keller, Sunny Hill, Laura Jager

Friends Absent: Rosie Burke, Frank Cunningham, John Ludlow

Guest: Richard Donovan

1. **Call to Order:** Jeanne VanZoeren

2. **Approval of 12-16–16 Annual Meeting Minutes without correction**

3. **Treasurer’s Report** - John Adams

Jack Eisinger will be Treasurer for the year 2018. Friends reviewed 3 handouts. (Profit and Loss Statement, Balance Sheet, 2017 BST construction Budget)

Friends 2017 income raised- \$100,100.42 (Harvest Tour, Toast, Contributions)

Cash in ACCF Dec 20,2017- \$184,628

Friends 2017 Trail construction expenses \$ 171.221

Remaining construction income to be billed-\$143,813

Total funds available between ACCF and Operating Fund \$45,442

John Adams made motion for Jack Eisinger to be added to the Chemical Bank account - motion Carried.

Discussion on best financial institution to use for our banking funds. At this point no decision or changes to be made.

4. **Presidents Report of Accomplishments** (Jeanne)

- Biggest and most notable accomplishment of the year is the completion of the north section of the trail in Saugatuck Twp.
- Other achievements: Marketing improvements in branding and promoting the Trail.
- The planning, execution and success of 3 significant Fundraising Events, (Toast, LakeShore Harvest Bike Tour, and the Annual Appeal) which combined raised close to \$50.000.
- Another highlight of the year was the addition of 4 new Board members who lend a high level of expertise and skill while representing different communities along the trail. This will give us credibility in our communications and dialogue in the different Townships.
- The First Annual Stakeholders meeting was held August 15 at the Saugatuck Twp. Hall.
- The December 6, Saugatuck Twp. presentation to the commissioners- which resulted in the approval of the 196 Overpass ownership.

5. Approval of the revised by-laws

- Discussion on the length of term of Officers and board members. Possible changes allow for 2-year term for officers allowing for a 1-year extension. After term there would be an opportunity to reup if so desired. Tabled and will be rewritten and presented as a motion at a later date.
- Discussion on Bylaws Board size. Recommended to change requirements of Board size to allow for a minimum of 5 with no maximum.
Articles need to be adapted. Board members are to review Bylaws and give Jeanne input. Richard Donovan will review the present Bylaws and the recommended revisions. Changes to be determined at March Meeting.

6. Adjournment

7. Next Meeting Date: December 20, 2018