

Friends of Columbia Greenway Rail Trail, Inc.
Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2019

Call to Order

Chair/Vice Chair

Roll Call

Clerk

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chairman – Joe Giffune | <input type="checkbox"/> Dir. Of Membership – Donna Green | <input type="checkbox"/> At Large – Bengt-Olaf Schneider |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair – Carmel Steger | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dir. Of Education – Don Podolski | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At Large – Bob Hamel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer – | <input type="checkbox"/> Dir of Resource Dev – | <input type="checkbox"/> At Large – John Tassinari |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clerk – Chris Steger | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At Large – Reenie Hamel | <input type="checkbox"/> At Large - Dan Call |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dir. Of Maint – Bob Pac | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At Large – Mike Young | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Cressotti – City Engineer |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dir. Of Maint – George Hart | <input type="checkbox"/> At Large – Carolyn Cacolice | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lt. Eric Hall - WPD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathan McHatton | <input type="checkbox"/> Kate Phelon – Chamber of Commerce |

Meeting called to order at Westfield City Hall at 6:30 pm.

Previous meeting minutes: Bob moved to approve, seconded by Don. Motion passed.

Reports of City Officers (Mark Cressotti)

Central Section – Advertise for bids due by June 22, 2019. Three more construction agreements to be voted on. The fire pits will be ready for the Boards September 2019 meeting.

Western Ave – work to commence in 2019. Western Ave East ready for public hearing summer 2019.

Westfield River Levee: City applied for a grant for design of trail.

Discussion about installing motion detectors for the Shaker Rd. crossing so the crossing lights due not have to be manually activated by trail users.

Lt. Eric Hall

Kids are continuing to hang out on Westfield River bridge lower areas. Homeless people have been seen using the Esplanade for encampments. If homeless people are seen contact Westfield PD. Bike rodeo was a success thanks to WPD cadets and officers.

Chair (Joe Giffune)

Joe's letter of resignation from the Chair's position read by Carmel.

Nominating Committee

Discussion about replacing Joe. Board agreed to make a series of motions to realign.

1. Chris made a motion to elect Johnathan McHatton to Director of Resource Development. Mike seconded, Johnathan was elected unanimously.

2. Bob made a motion to have Carmel become Acting Chair. Seconded by Reenie. Approved unanimously.
3. Carmel made a motion to have Joe become acting Treasurer. Second by Bob. Approved unanimously.

Vice chair position to remain open pending a nominee.

Vice Chair (Carmel Steger)

Discussion about the need for Board members to attend Tuesday's on the Trail this summer. Refer to Web site for dates. Discussion about running Tuesday's on the trail and starting at 6:00 pm and Stop and Shop ramp.

Treasurer's Report (Joe Giffune)

No report.

Director of Planning and Resources Report

No report

Director of Maintenance (Bob Pac/George Hart)

Refer to submitted report. Graffiti is showing up on the underpass. Discussion on how to cover or remove Graffiti. Chris to keep removal of Graffiti on September's agenda.

Director of Education

Mass in Motion bike summit was June 27. DCR will hold a public hearing on Class 1 and 2 bikes, not calling them motorized. Kiwanis have distributed over 750 helmets over 5 years (FOCGRT have contributed money over the years).

Director of Membership

Membership report was emailed to FOCGRT members.

At Large:

No comments.

Old Business:

1. E-Bike regulations for bike trails discussed. Appears Mass. will be following CT lead for regulating the bikes by either Class 1 or 2. Co-sponsored by Don Humanson and John Velis.
2. Westfield River Bridge plaque replacement.

New Business:

1. Invite mayoral candidates to FOCGRT meetings in the fall to educate them on the trail benefits and listen to their position.
2. New Community Police Officer

Next meeting is Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at the Westfield River Esplanade (pending approval by board members).

Motion made to adjourn meeting by Don, second by Jonathan, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.