

Friends of Columbia Greenway Rail Trail, Inc.
Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2019

Call to Order

Chair/Vice Chair

Roll Call

Clerk

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chairman – Joe Giffune | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dir. Of Membership – Donna Green | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> At Large – Bob Hamel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer – | <input type="checkbox"/> Dir of Resource Dev – | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> At Large – Carolyn Cacolice | <input type="checkbox"/> Lt. Eric Hall - WPD |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathan McHatton | | <input type="checkbox"/> Kate Phelon – Chamber of Commerce |

Meeting called to order at Westfield YMCA at 6:30 pm.

Previous meeting minutes: Begt moved to approve, seconded by John. Motion passed.

Reports of City Officers (Mark Cressotti)

Central Section - 100% plans submitted for central section and things look to be on schedule, may need some additional funds for acquisitions, suggestion was made to have the FOGRT board review final plans, Mark agreed to schedule May meeting at City Hall for a review, bridge over Elm Street has some additional features.

Western Ave - Pre-construction meeting held, city has turned project over to state to implement, should be completed in two construction seasons starting spring 2019, 25% design done for eastern portion, tentatively scheduled for FY 2021.

Valley Bike Share discussion – Mark has been contacted about Westfield implementing, agreement that more details were needed.

FOGRT to Southampton – discussions about options to access Southampton trail, further discussions by Board is necessary.

Lt. Eric Hall
No report

Public Participation – Jonathan McHatton introduced himself.

Chair (Joe Giffune)
No report

Vice Chair (Carmel Steger)

Met with Stop and Shop manager and had a discussion about corporate membership, corporate benefit cards may be helpful for board members to use, discussion about sponsors for Tuesday's on the trail.

Treasurer's Report (Joe Giffune)

Joe has agreed to be Acting Treasurer, Balance sheet circulated with a balance of \$20,219, Profit and Loss sheet showed a -\$3961 for calendar year 2018, Don made a motion to accept the Balance Sheet and P&L, seconded by John, motion passed (submitted by Carmel on Joe's behalf).

Director of Planning and Resources Report

No report

Director of Maintenance (Bob Pac/George Hart)

See submitted report, attended a Farmington Valley Rail Trail event, April 25th at 7 pm a trail talk will be presented at Southampton Historical Society, discussion about replacing tree at Ledges Ave ramp, motion made to provide up to \$75 to purchase new tree by Don, seconded by John, motion passed, discussion about DPW support of rail trail.

Director of Membership

First commercial sponsor was received, March newsletter sent out, having to use a workaround for getting new member information, Bob Hamel met with Peter about bike racks, Donna needs lots of pictures from rail trail.

Director of Education

Discussion about misinformation concerning trail maintenance, Don agreed to research facts concerning trail maintenance costs.

Westfield 350

Yoga on the Esplanade - Carmel

Bike Rodeo – Carolyn

Trail Quest - Donna

Bike Valet - Donna

Mayor's Bike Ride (May 13, 5:30 pm) – Reenie, Begt-Olaf., New Horizons is willing to provide bicycles if people need them.

Kate Phelon:

No report

Nominating Committee:

At Large:

No reports.

Old Business:

1. Westfield River Bridge plaque replacement.
2. Security camera on bridge.
3. Westfield Board of Health sign
 - a. Don and Dan met with the Board of Health
 - b. The sign will say No Smoking, curb your pet, helmets required for kids + other items.
 - c. It will also have the Board of Health and FOCGRT logos.
 - d. A draft design will be share with the FOCGRT board.

New 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.

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at the YMCA.

Motion made to adjourn meeting by Chris, second by Caroline, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.