

Friends of Columbia Greenway Rail Trail, Inc.

Meeting Minutes, May 16, 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm.

Present: Chris Steger, Bob Pac, George Hart, Alice Flyte, Sandy Sorel, Don Podolski, Bob Burch, Dan Call, MJ Bull, Joe Camilleri.

Guest: Ashley Eaton, Mike Young, Carmel Steger, Bengt-Olaf Schneider, Eric Bressler

Open meeting announcements: none

Minutes of April meeting: many didn't receive; motion made to approve, seconded, accepted. Sandy and John did not get meeting notices.

March ___?___ regarding trail handout; need card to handout and Alice will and a poster; send Chris words to post on it; send 10 word ideas for on the poster to Chris S.

Chris S. noted sorrow for Joe Giffune's family's loss.

Treasury balance is \$21,872

Director of planning – MJ Bull: graphic designer, George, will get ___?___ to her.

Maintenance Director – Bob P: report on a handout; Sat. from 7:00am- 7:00pm at Canal sign is where help is needed with a count.

Joe C.: mentioned about creating promotional material for FOGRT.

Alice F. - received comments from Seniors that trail is a waste of money; Carol Palmer at the YMCA is planning a walk on the trail; others from a handout (community block grant and a ride of silence)

Sandy S. - golf tournament: \$4,300.00 in sponsors and \$1,000.00 tomorrow; 4 foursomes (only 2 have paid); need raffle prizes; six-packs of craft beer are needed; gift certificates(stores, restaurants, lottery tickets); need on course volunteers; postings are online; need help at 9:30am for set up; need tee signs; help the week before.

MJ B. – nomination committee slate to vote on new members; she gave out ballots for voting.

Alice F. – stated the need for updated bylaws

Old Business: none

New members – Chris S. confirmed votes and they were introduced.

Next meeting is June 20 at First Congregational Church; enter side door; bring Sandy your beer donations.

New Business - Don P. stated regarding Open Spaces and received plan trail and on street bike infrastructure is a seven year plan; we should complete questions and attend meetings to support. Also, interested in nature trails. He gave a handout on Mass Bicycle Transportation Plan, and June 19-26 will be the meetings and he'll forward info. Black squirrel bike racks at 12 store locations and he'll forward info; we'll raise half the money (\$1,100.00 per rack) and DPW will install.

Dan C. stated regarding a meeting with the city – there is a workshop in Springfield on 5/28; 2 new members from Western part; the 5/10 STC meeting was cancelled; he couldn't attend the 5/16 meeting; letter to mayor was sent 5/9, requested changes to plan and Dan gave details, including spread sheets that didn't match and needed corrections from highest leader , Mayor Sullivan, in the community.

Don P. mentioned that Amber Danahey, Community outreach agent, asked about adding lighting on trail to Shaker Farms; other questions regarding details (costs, motion sensitive, solar); so keep our eyes on possibilities. Possible grant money is available.

Alice F. questioned the need for a group email list and Chris S. said he will send it out to us.

There is a need to inventory what the items the FOCGRT own. Who is best to do this?

Motion made to adjourn, seconded, vote passed

Next meeting June 20, 6:30pm, location to be at First Congregational Church