

**Friend of Columbia River Greenway Rail Trail
Shaker Country Club
Annual Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2017**

6:32 Meeting called to order by Sandy Sorel

Attendance

Present: Sandy Sorel, Eric Bressler, Chris Steger, Bob Pac, George Hart, Alice Flyte, Ashley Eaton, Bob Burch, Michael Young, Don Podolski, Beng-Olaf Schneider, Carmel Steger, John Tassinari, Dan Call, Mark Cressotti,

Madison Babula, , Darrin --, Jim Krupienski

Absent - Joe Giffune, Joe Camerilli,

Public Participation: Terri Bennett

Chair Vice Chair Report

Welcome to all new board members, May meeting minutes should include each board member's term date, Chris to update minutes to include the information and resend.

Treasurer's Report

Profit and Loss statement handed out to members, Jim Krupienski, Partner from Meyers Brothers Kalicka, P.C. presented accounting compliance basics to the board, discussion included accounting compliance to IRA and Commonwealth of Massachusetts requirements for non-profits

Darrin , from Berkshire Insurance Group, discussed liability insurance coverage directors' and board members have, up to \$1 million coverage per occurrence, 3 year policy in place, A rate policy, there is also general liability coverage for injuries during board sponsored events

Mark Cressotti/Westfield Engineering Dept.

Central section of greenway design is moving forward, working on 75% completion to submit to state, additional money is going to be needed to complete design to meet state pre-bid requirements; Westfield River bridge work is proceeding and should be done by the beginning of the spring construction season; Western Ave project nearing 100% complete, plan to go out to bid in March 2018 with construction to start

shortly after; stenciling on Franklin is awaiting purchase by City of Westfield

Communication from MJ:

Two more panels are in development, MJ has donated the funds for having the panels on native American history validated for accuracy, approximately \$3180 will be needed for installation.

Motion made to allocate funds, seconded, discussion ensued and agreement was reached to table issue pending final estimate

Director of Planning and Resources

Reviewing information from MJ and transitioning into role, working on a rail trail truth in funding document, there was a conference on September 28th on bike trails (Ashley and City Engineering Dept. members attended)

Directors of Maintenance

Attended various meetings in support of central section of trail, reviewed damage on trail, Southwick kiosk was vandalized, contact the natural resources department in Southwick to report trail vandalism, Scott Hathaway is Westfield DPW contact; motion was made to authorize the purchase of new trees to replace vandalized ones for a cost up to \$300 by Don, seconded by John, motion passed, Bob to discuss with Board of Public Works; discussion about applying stencils to rail surface to inform when passing; rail count numbers down slightly from previous count, noted 41% of bike riders not wearing helmets

Director of Education

Madison Babula, WSC graduate student introduced herself, she is working with Joe to refine citizen survey questions, discussion about what questions board members may be interested in

Director of Membership

Glow walk on trail almost postponed due to lack of support from City Council, it is now scheduled for Thursday, October 5th at 6:30 pm; Tuesday's on trail ride went well but attendance was limited, mayor joined in on last ride and stated support for rides in 2018; other membership activities awaiting a process to be able add members to web site; from Sandy, golf tournament made \$6331 after expenses

Old Business

Community Days booklets handed out by Sandy, sell for \$5 and proceeds go to FOCGRT;

Great River Ride support, likely need five co-chairs, discussion ensued on the level of commitment required to put on the GRR, mixed support from board members concerning GOCGRT taking over running the ride, board members to work with Don Podolski the week of the ride to get first hand knowledge of what it takes to run the event, vote planned for the October meeting

New Business

Harry Rock, local entertainer and citizen, offered to have an event to benefit FOCGRT, Sandy to invite Harry to October meeting; discussion about meeting time and everyone agreed 6:30 pm is OK

October meeting to be held at RE/MAX, 108 Elm Street, Westfield.

Motion made to adjourn meeting by Dan Call, second by John Tassinari, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:35

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Steger