

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park
Board of Directors' Meeting 8/30/2016
Hamilton Township, OH**

Call to Order at 7:00PM - Ron

Introduction of Members and Guests - Ron (5 min)

Present: Bruce Cortright, Mike Dresch, Ron Gorley, Don Hahn, Paul Morgan, George Stockham, Janet Slater, John Theuring

Absent: Rich Easterly, Aaron Rourke

Guest: Ken Elliott (ODNR), Gus Smithhisler (ODNR), Dick Feldman (Spring Valley Section Adopter)

Approval of Minutes from July 13 - John (5 min)



07-13-2016 Minutes
without previous min

Motion to accept: Paul Morgan **Seconded:** Janet Slater **Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report - Mike (5 min)

As of 8/26/16

Cash On Hand:

Savings Account \$40,106.87

Checking Account 8,837.34

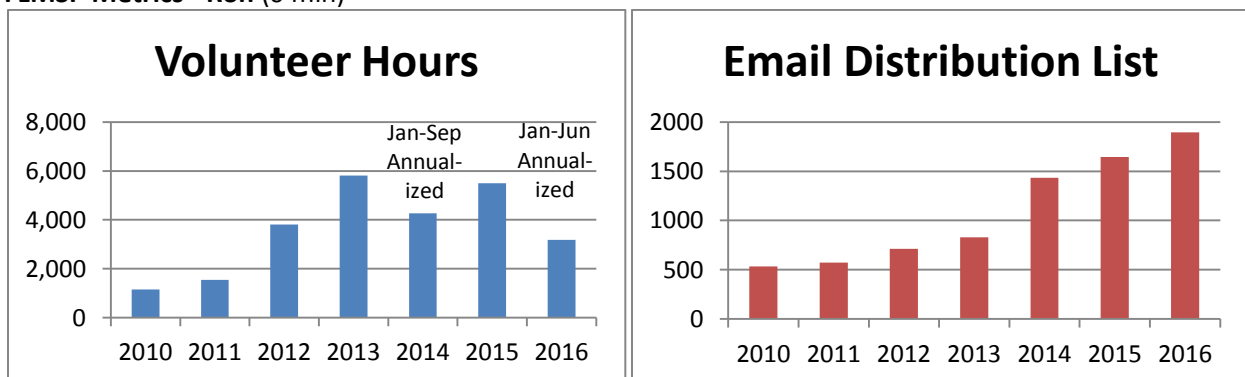
Total \$48,944.21

All funds are unrestricted

Note:

- Crack sealing is paid.
- Current CPA has moved to Florida, but wants to continue to do the FLMSP books. Consensus is that this is not a good idea. Mike Dresch will search for a new CPA. Bruce Cortright knows of a CPA who does work for nonprofits as well. He is going to contact this person as well. Both will bring a recommendation to the next meeting.

FLMSP Metrics - Ron (0 min)



Ron Gorley noted that the root cutting hours have not been submitted for this year's volunteer hours yet.

ODNR - Ken and Gus (30 min)

- Ft Ancient closure update
 - Work to begin 9/12/2016, but trail won't close until 9/19/2016. Will be closed through November 2016.
 - Arrangements will be made to accommodate the Morgan's Triathlon.
- Clermont and Hamilton County paving status, including explanation of Rebid that was posted in the Cincinnati Enquirer on August 26



Rebid Legal Notice.pdf

- *First bid included micro-surfacing. Was too much. Will rebid without micro-surfacing.*
 - *Trail will be widened to 12 feet from E. Broadway to Loveland Ave. and from Loveland Ave. to Harrison Ave.*
 - *There will be gravel re-berming on the full project.*
 - *From Kugler Mill south there will be drainage improvements and clean up, which may mean dirt will be relocated where needed.*
 - *The McCracken water issue will be solved by under draining. Exactly where will be decided on site after work is in progress and is dependent on whether money is available.*
 - *At the time of repaving, the Loveland Fire Department will be putting a park in at the market site.*
- There are many dead mature trees along the trail which are breaking and falling. The tree blitz that was to have taken place covered a small section of the trail and was not without complications and wasn't enough. (Mike Dresch)

The LMSP will have use of a bucket truck at the end of September. Ken Elliott will work through Bruce Cortright to coordinate a joint tree blitzing effort between ODNR and FLMSP when the truck is available. Another blitz may be scheduled in the winter months as well. When trees are removed during the repaving project they will be replaced at a 7 to 25 ratio.

- Centerline striping requirements. Questions below are from Don Hahn.
 1. Can ODNR centerline paint the trail? If so, what are the plans for doing that?
 2. What are the specs for centerline painting? Can the existing faded centerline found in most areas be repainted as it is: a 4 inch wide yellow stripe 10 feet long with 30 foot long gaps between the painted stripes? Other areas have 3 foot long painted stripes with 9 feet of unpainted gap between stripes.
 3. Will the ~8 miles of repaving south of Loveland include centerline paving?
 4. Do you know info about any reported accidents on bike trails including LMSP where having a clearly painted centerline might have prevented the accident?

ODNR said that in studying the use of centerlines on bike trails, it has been found that they are largely ignored by users. Users will move over when it is necessary. Therefore, the cost of painting centerlines through the entire trail is not cost effective. Instead, 100 feet before every intersection, including the spurs coming in from housing developments and other trails, a double yellow line will be painted to alert users of the upcoming intersection. STOP AHEAD will be painted when a stop sign is at the intersection.

Centerline Striping Bids - Don (10 min)

- Black Dog Seal Coat - 10' dash lines at \$360 per mile, and if for every 5 miles we will deduct \$5
- Another bid: \$615 per mile.

Using the ODNR standard in the previous discussion, Don Hahn will get new estimates for the trail north of O'Bannon Creek.

Recruitment - Paul and John (15 min)

- At our last board meeting, Paul presented data showing FLMSP membership and active members to be much smaller than could be expected. We agreed we would all take an active role in recruiting. How did that go?
- In an earlier email, John said he would present a motion on this topic.

Ron Gorley reported on having a work session with a designated volunteer who handed out FLMSP literature and talked about the need for volunteers with trail users as they passed by. He questioned whether it was effective or not and that the location between access points was a definite obstacle for the activity.

John Theuring reported on the July 23rd membership drive at Nisbet Park. Janet Slater pointed out that during this activity she learned that people stop at Little Miami Conservancy's Trail Center in Loveland thinking it was the office of FLMSP. She left brochures and hotline cards to be passed out when people stop in asking. Janet also wants to post when all work sessions take place on Facebook, the website and in TrailMail.

Paul Morgan stated that after the July board meeting he had suspended all efforts to recruit. He then emphasized that although the reported efforts may have been good for bringing awareness to the group, getting real volunteers requires several steps: 1. The meet and greet, 2. Follow up contact, 3. An invitation to an introductory work session. This session is to be light work and very social. 4. Another work session to introduce power tools and more socializing. 5. Connect new volunteer with an active work group on the trail. With this process he has filled 4 empty sections with 4 new volunteers.

Recruiting volunteers will continue to be discussed at future Board meetings.

Market to Market - Ron (5 min)

- September 10, 9:45 am - 2:00 pm at Corwin.
- Relay exchange point. Brings in \$450. (Could have been \$500 if we finalized volunteers earlier)
- Steve is supervisor. Have 7 ½ of 10 other volunteers

- How to get the remaining 2 ½?
- If we could increase our volunteer ranks, MtM would let us staff multiple relay points (\$500 ea)

Dick Feldman volunteered to help at the Market to Market relay.

Also, discussion by Dick Feldman:

Sept 10th Greene County is sponsoring a night bike ride from Xenia to Spring Valley

Asked that this be included in TrailMail: WCET is running a documentary on Grandma Gatewood, a founder of the Buckeye Trail Association.

Hotline Calls - Mike (10 min)

We need an explanation of the hotline operation. Right now it is confusing as to who is handling the call and I thought Aaron wanted to be the #1 person handling the calls since he wants to be the "minuteman response coordinator".

Tabled for next meeting.

TREE Grant - Ron (10 min)

Becky Retzer has submitted a grant request to the Tree Research and Educational Endowment (TREE) Fund. Maximum grant is \$5000. Proposal is to provide a tree identification location at the intersection of the trail and the Lebanon spur. There are already 11 different tree species there now and we will add more this fall. Grant will provide an expanded kiosk, tree identification labels and a couple of benches.

Ron Gorley motioned: "~~Provided that FLMSP is awarded the TREE grant, FLMSP~~ authorizes up to another \$500 to cover costs in the proposal that are in excess of the financial award of the grant." This motion is so Becky can provide information about other funding in the final grant request which is due on September 1.

Seconded: George Stockham

Motion Carried

Native Prairie Planting - Ron (5 min)

Becky Retzer and I have been working with a horticulturist, Solomon Gamboa, owner of Pioneer Landscapes to transform up to 1/4 acres of grass into native prairie wildflower plantings. Solomon has agreed to provide all labor for free. He has also agreed to pay for one-half of the cost of seed and a small sign at the site. The site is in front of the Middletown Junction train station foundation.

Ron Gorley motioned: "FLMSP agrees to pay one-half the cost of native wildflower seeds and signage at the Middletown Junction site, up to a maximum of \$500."

Seconded: George Stockham

Motion Carried

Other Business:

Paul Morgan motioned for \$1000 be spent to purchase two new Kombi units for the Fosters cache

Seconded: George Stockham

Motion Carried

Mike Dresch motioned to donate \$500 to the historical marker for the Peters Cartridge Plant location

Seconded: George Stockham

Motion carried

The following items are for information. Not necessarily for discussion.

Crack Filling - Don

Work between Morrow and Greene Co. line was completed July 20 without incident to my knowledge. Cost was \$12,140. The Loveland to Morrow section will be sealed after Labor Day at cost of \$10,180 as agreed by board. No discussion expected.

Benchmark Outfitters Charity Fundraiser - Ron

- September 15, 5-9 pm.
- John Theuring (plus others?)
- Beer Tasting (Mad Tree) and Raffle. Expected donation about \$1,000.

Kiosks - Steve

- No proposal today. Perhaps during the next month or at next board meeting.

Interact for Health Update - Steve

- No proposal today. Perhaps during the next month or at next board meeting.

Spraying - Don

- No proposal today. Past spraying of HS has costs us in the \$20,000 range so it's a big item. Don is looking for feedback. Okay to provide feedback via email. Also, he cannot be the only volunteer spraying on the trail.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM

Next Meeting -

October	13	Thur	7 pm	Wayne Twp Admin Bldg	6050 N. Clarksville Road Waynesville, OH 45068
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