

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park
Annual Membership Meeting
Fosters Pointe Club House
Maineville OH
Meeting Minutes 05/05/2019**

Call to Order: Steve Murphy

Board votes in blue

Action steps in green

Board Members Present: Steve Murphy, Dick Feldmann, Ron Gorley, Janet Slater,, Rick Forrester, Bruce Cortright, Tom Fromholt

Guests: Tom McCray, Becky Retzer, Evan Slater, Richard Rust, Clayton & Kelly Armentrout, Dan & Lisa Berling, Tammy J. Alverson, Richard & Teddie Curry,, Steve Wilson (Ohio Senator), Janet & Jerry Koehne, Holly King, Gretchen & Phil Stone, Jack Garrity, Joe Rozzi, Jim Smith (Village of South Lebanon), Becki Walker, Bill Schroeder (Little Miami Conservancy), Ken Spercher, Chris White, John Stevens, Melissa Clark (ODNR), Peter Conter, Michael Thierait, Nate Sturm, Rich Easterly, Tony Blizniak, Don Hahn, Lisa Wilson, Katy Wuest, Erick Wikum, Ed Fisher, Rhonda Cortright, Barbara & Randy Hitnzal, Michael Caudill, Jim & Maxine Fischer, Denis Egan, Steven Plattner, Dave Diersing, Ed Frankenhoff

Approval of Minutes from 04/10/2019: Motion by Ron Gorley, Rick Forester seconded, approved

Treasurer's Report - Dick Feldmann

Cash On Hand:	03/31/2019	04/30/2019	
Savings Account	\$52,223.25	\$52,232.69	
Checking Account	12,779.11	\$1,521.83	
Total	\$65,002.36	\$53,754.52	\$16,794.59 Restricted \$13,663.00 Reserved

Dick presented a thorough recap of the 2018-2019 finances.

1. Strategic Plan.

1. Safety
2. Condition & Drainage
3. Volunteer Management
4. Convenience
5. Beauty

2. Administrative.

- Board Elections.
 - Steve Murphy, President 2-year term
 - Ron Gorley, Vice President 2-year term
 - Dick Feldmann, Treasurer 2-year term
 - Becky Retzer, Secretary 1-year term
 - Bruce Cortright, Member at Large 2-year term
 - Rick Forrester, Member at Large 1-year term
 - Tom McCray, Member at Large 1-year term

- Tom Fromholt, Advisory Board

Steve suggested a motion for the whole slate be made.

Janet motioned, Ron seconded. Motion approved

3. **ODNR.** Melissa Clark

- Current staffing
 - Melissa that ODNR usually has two seasonal workers for maintenance.
- Morrow slip
 - The Morrow slip is being repaired and will soon be done.
- Entrance signs
 - Will be tan/green like the kiosk signs
 - ODNR will pay for signs
 - “Welcome to the Little Miami State Park”
 - Terrace Park and Hedges Rd
 - Melissa is working on the signs and they should be installed before the 40th Anniversary celebration

4. **Little Miami Conservancy.** Eric Partee (Tabled)

5. **40th Anniversary of the Little Miami State Park and 10th Anniversary of the Friends of the Little Miami State Park.**

Dick Feldmann presented the many opportunities the 40th Anniversary will offer not only riders but other trail users. He reviewed the different ride options and the events being planned for the two trail fests.

6. **Trail Safety:**

Bruce Cortright brought in the new lighted, solar powered stop sign. Two of the signs will be installed at the Stubb Mill intersection by Bruce Cortright. Their effectiveness will help determine if other signs will be purchased and installed in the future.

A review of the Safety issues addressed and resolved by FLMSF as well as plans for the future.

● **Trail Sentinel Program.** Don Hahn

Don presented the program and the need for more volunteers. Sentinels will be key to reporting issues along the trail.

Because of insurance costs - Sentinels cannot touch anyone who may need help along the trail.

● **Mile Markers.**

- For the Hotline, Trail Sentinels, and First Responders to be effective requires that we be able to know where on the trail the incident has occurred.
- In order to maintain the trail and its drainage requires that we be able to pinpoint the situation using Mile Markers and GPS.
- Don Mills has repainted all 102 Mile Markers.

● **Trail Blowing.** Tom McCray does north of Morrow; Pete Hostetter does south of Morrow.

7. Trail Condition: Bruce Cortright

- **Stabilizations.** ODNR.
 - Trail erosions at I-71 and 4 to 5 places south of Fosters.

8. Trail Drainage.

- Drainage issues from north of Foster's to Spring Valley.
- High Priority. Tom McCray
- I275 wash. Don Mills.

Jim Smith, Village of South Lebanon spoke on the future plans for the South Lebanon section of the trail. Bruce and Ron thanked him for the quick response the village has always given when there is an issue along the section of the trail in their village.

9. Funding

- State
 - Unused Project Funds after Spring Valley, Ft. Ancient, Shawnee remediation, Morrow, etc.
 - Unused Contingency Funds (10% of \$3.5 million?)
 - \$200K in Community-based Capital as a result of our grassroots efforts.
 - \$100K in Special Projects Capital Account.
 - Any ODNR funding in the 2018-2019 State Capital Budget for parks in general and the Little Miami State Park in particular.

Ron Gorley thanked everyone for their help with the grassroot efforts for additional funding with the State of Ohio. There is no update in regards to the 2018-2019 State Capital Budget for the amount designated to the Little Miami State Park.

- Grants. Becky Retzer reported that with the purchase of Grant Station our organization will be able to search for grants that will help secure funding for projects that will help us fulfill our mission. She also asked that the attendees let Friends know of any opportunities locally or with businesses.

10. Volunteer Management. John Biederman

Steve recognized the good work John does in matching volunteers to opportunities.

11. Trail Projects Needing Capital and/or Labor

- **Rest and Information Centers.**
 - Potential new locations. Corwin, Spring Valley, Morrow, Ft Ancient St Rt 350
 - Potential Morrow Kiosk. The side walls are 64" and the back wall is 96".
 - Potential Rest and Information Center in Corwin that Melissa is going to present to Corwin Council.
- **Kiosk Locks.** Change locks on all kiosks to combination locks.
- **Benches**

- Remove dilapidated bench in Corwin.
- **Pipe Safes.**
 - Install new pipe safe at Village Grocery in Miamiville.
 - Install new pipe safe in Spring Valley.
 - Install new pipe safe in South Lebanon.
 - Relocate Loveland pipe safe closer to the kiosk.
 - Repaint and resticker all pipe safes. As of 5/1/2019, Don Mills has repainted all pipe safes.
- **Intersection Vertical Signage.** Install intersection vertical signage with ODNR team when they are ready.
- **Spring Valley Nature Preserve.**
 - Work party to finish opening up the view.
- **Repave.** ODNR.

12. Trail Convenience/Amenities

- **Reforestation.** Rick Forrester
- **Pollinator Project.** Becky Retzer.

13. Invasive Control. Jim Mason

Steve reported that over \$30,000 has been provided by FLMSF over the past five years for invasive control.

14. Trail Counter Program. Ron Gorley.

Ron reported Friends would be collaborating with Tri State Trails for our counter program. Ron emphasized the importance of the Trail County Program for grant writing as well as tracking number of uses for yearly statistics.

15. Outreach.

- Miami Valley Cycling Summit. People were asked to nominate their favorite local bike organization. FLMSF won this award and will be accepting the award on May 10.
- FLMSF has been asked to make a presentation to the Sierra Club on June 3

Senator Steve Wilson thanked the Friends for the work they do to help make the Little Miami State Park functional and beautiful. He gave a brief summary of Ohio's over 5,000 miles of trails and his dedication to continue to advocate for Ohio's trails.

16. Meeting Schedule.

- June 12, 2019 Wayne Township Administration Bldg.
- July 10, 2019 Loveland Town Hall?

Next Board Meeting:

June 12, 2019, 6:30 PM, Wayne Township Administration Building, 6050 N Clarksville Road, Waynesville, OH 45068

