

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park
Annual Membership Meeting 5-7-2023
Christian Waldschmidt Homestead
Meeting Minutes**

Attendees:

Dick Feldmann	President
Ron Gorley	Vice President
Becky Retzer	Treasurer
Bill Brown	Secretary
Larry Bloomfield	Member at Large
Bruce Cortright	Member at Large
Fritz Buschmann	Member at Large
Casey Marcum	ODNR
Dan Berling	
Lisa Berling	
Andy Brown	
Linda Buschmann	
Mike Dresch	
Rich Easterly	
Louise Easterly	
Amy Forrester	
Rick Forrester	
D Grant Gilbert	
Margie Hartzel	
Roger Kleinfelter	
Ken Kramer	
Matt Latham	
John Lennon	
Dennis Lewis	
Kathy Lewis	
Phil Obermiller	
Donald Outtersen	
Cherry Poppe	
Kurt Poppe	
Michael Stoeckel	
Diane Wright	
Greg Melia	
Jim Schneider	
Richard Schmide	
George Stockham	
Mary Ann Wendeln	

Minutes

Motions

Actions

Call to Order: Dick Feldmann

AGENDA / STRATEGIC PLAN.

- Welcome and Introduction
- FLMSF Mission
- **Election of Board Members**
- Treasurer's Report
- **On-Going Park Support**
- **Special Projects from 2022**
- Looking Ahead to 2023-2024
- **ODNR**
- **Other Business from the floor**

Election of Board Members:

- Members voted to approve board members for the positions and terms shown below in **Bold.**

President	2023-2025:	Dick Feldmann
Vice President	2022-2024	Ron Gorley
Secretary	2022-2024	Bill Brown
Treasurer	2023-2025:	Becky Retzer
Board Members at Large		
	2022-2024	Fritz Buschmann
	2022-2024	Larry Bloomfield
	2023-2025	Bruce Cortright

On-Going Park Support:

- Ron Gorley is working with ODNR for 1 mile memorial bench spacing vs. the current 2 mile spacing.
- After agreement with ODNR the memorial bench program will be reopened and locations will be determined.
- There are 10 people on the waiting list who wish to donate a bench.

Special Projects from 2022:

- Two initiatives were led in 2022 to improve volunteer engagement.
- Thanks to Linda for leading the volunteer recognition picnic and other recognition events in 2022.
- Thanks to Becky for leading implementation of Volgistics Volunteer Management software.
- There has been a big improvement in knowing who the volunteers are, tracking their service and getting them registered with the state.

- FLMSP has 130 confirmed active members.

ODNR Report:

- New park manager in 2022: Mike Norman. He has attended several FLMSP Board Meetings in 2022.
- Casey Marcum has been hired as the new LMSP Grounds Manager and has also attended several of the Board Meetings.
- She has 19 years of experience working for the State of Ohio
- She worked previously at Hueston Woods State Park
- Casey expressed her appreciation for all the work the volunteers of the FLMSP do on the trail.

Other Business:

- Jim Scheider mentioned he liked the newer standardized trail benches. Asked if the older wooden benches will be replaced.
- Ron Gorley provided the following info on the benches:
 - All existing benches on the trail have been surveyed.
 - Those needing replacement have been identified.
 - He is getting with ODNR to finalize a bench replacement agreement.
 - The Oregonia benches will be the first to be replaced.
 - 10 people waiting to donate benches are on the waiting list.
- The question of how existing memorial benches will be handled was raised. Will those memorials be transferred to the new bench? Ron said no old memorial benches have been replaced yet. This issue will be addressed.
- Grant Dilbert expressed concern about the lack of detours or “go around” plans when the trail is closed for a project.
- He knows detours are difficult, but thinks we should try to find a solution with ODNR.
- Dick will include this item in his upcoming discussions with Mike Norman.
- It seems people are realizing that the trail will be closed somewhere every year, which means you seldom will be able to get through the whole trail.
- Dan Berling mentioned the trail slippage south of East Galbraith Road needs fixing.
- A memorial for Steve Murphy was discussed and Dick informed everyone that a significant memorial is being considered and several options have been suggested. This item will be worked on in 2023.
- A continuation of the effort to open up Little Miami River views from the trail was endorsed by a member. Dick said much of the vegetation along the river bank helps hold the soil during high river levels and flooding and removing it may not be allowed by the state or the Little Miami River Conservancy.

Dick made a motion to adjourn

Fritz seconded

Meeting adjourned