

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park
Annual Meeting - May 03, 2026
Waldschmidt House in Camp Dennison
Meeting Minutes**

Minutes

Motions

- 1. BOARD SUCCESSION**
- 2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**
- 3. TREASURER'S REPORT**
- 4. ODNR'S REPORT**
- 5. QUESTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS.**

Call to Order: Becky Retzer

Introduction of Board:

Becky Retzer	President
Dick Feldmann	Vice President
Bill Brown	Treasurer
John Telintelo	Secretary
Rick Forrester	Member at Large
Bruce Cortright	Member at Large
Kris Allenson	Member at Large

Attendees:

Margee Kirkpatrick	FLMSP Trail Mail
Ron Gorley	FLMSP Memorial Program
Tiffany DeChant-Hunt	ODNR
Casey Marcum	ODNR
Matt Latham	Warren County Parks
Dan Berling	
Lisa Berling	
Tony Blizniak	
Michael Caudill	
James Cranley	
Mike Dresch	
Rich Easterly	
Ted Fischer	
Amy Forrester	
Dave Furterer	
Steve Guthrie	
Barb Hite	
Lee Hite	
Dennis Lewis	
Kathy Lewis	
Steve Massie	
Patrick McCullen	
Phil Obermiller	
Teresa Seitz	
Mr. Seitz	
Alison Shank	
Mark Smith	
Ken Speicher	

BOARD SUCCESSION: Becky Retzer

- Becky Retzer noted that three FLMSF Board members were up for reelection as follows:
- Vice President: Dick Feldmann
- Secretary: John Telintelo
- Member: Rick Forrester
- Becky opened the floor for any other nominations. There were none.

MOTION: Becky made a motion to elect these three officers to the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Little Miami State Park (FLMSF) for 2026-2027.

Lee Hite seconded. MOTION APPROVED.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Becky Retzer

- President Becky Retzer made a verbal presentation of the accomplishments, projects, events, issues, and equipment purchases for FLMSF during the last year. Future progress in trail maintenance, amenities, and improvements for 2026 and beyond was also discussed.
- Becky noted there were 165 active volunteers in the database, and she shared the tremendous value they bring to the organization.
- Becky noted that trail usage was slightly down, due to closures and weather. Ron Gorley gave specific trail usage numbers.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bill Brown

- Treasurer Bill Brown presented the financial position of the FLMSF.
- Bill stated FLMSF has \$175,000 in cash. Approx. \$35,000 in capital equipment assets.
- Bill noted the amazing synergy between donors and volunteers in this non-profit organization. Donors get good value for their dollars as volunteers provide the labor to accomplish specific projects. Bill thanked the donors.

ODNR'S REPORT: Tiffany DeChant-Hunt

- Tiffany DeChant-Hunt, ODNR Caesar Creek and LMSF Manager, spoke and thanked the Donors of the FLMSF for all they do to support our volunteers and keep the park in great condition.
- Tiffany stressed the trail has a lasting impact on the communities from the donor's support.
- Tiffany noted that ODNR is investing in sustainability.

QUESTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS: Attendees

- Matt Latham of Warren Co. Parks discussed a commissioned UC Study that showed the effect and economic impact of our recreational trail. The study focused exclusively on public parks, trails, and natural areas across Warren County. Major commercial event-driven destinations like Kings Island, The Cincinnati Open, and the Warren County Sports Park were not included. The study found a \$96 million benefit to Warren County, quantifying the benefits of the parks, the Little Miami State Park trail, and other natural assets that Warren County offers.
- Dan Berling asked about the plans for the Milford Trail Pavement Slip.
- Tiffany noted the State of Ohio is currently investing heavily in a trail design study for major work. Shawnee Run Bridge, Milford Trail Slip, and Miamiville Bridge are all part of that study.
- Ron Gorley discussed the major Pavement Projects to be completed in 2026.
- Rick Forrester reviewed a New Equipment Storage Facility being developed at Foster.
- Rick Forrester reviewed a Railroad Memorabilia History Display Area being developed at Foster in conjunction with ODNR.
- Dick Feldmann reviewed several projects, including a Spring Valley Preserve Connector.

FLMSF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

- The next Board Meeting is JUNE 10 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM, virtual on MS Teams.

MOTION: Becky made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Rick Forrester seconded. MOTION APPROVED.