

Minutes of the February 24,2022 Friends of McCoy's Creek Trail Executive Committee Meeting called to order by Chairperson Jerry Flenar at 7:04 p.m. City Hall. Attending: T. Green, Burgoyne, McClellan, Brooks, McDonald, Flenar, Jacobs, and Dougherty (via phone). Absent: Miller, Writer, and M. Green. Visitors: None.

Agenda: A motion to accept the February 24,2022 Agenda (one week after postponed meeting date of February 17, 2022) was approved and carried.

Public Comments: None.

Secretary's Report: A motion to approve the minutes of the November 18,2021 Meeting was approved and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Flenar reported that \$2050 in membership dues had been received through November,2021. The Maintenance Reserve is currently \$24,593.87 with an Available Cash Balance of \$99,787. Brooks questioned the derivation of that number since it was three times the normal amount. Flenar also relayed that the Michigan Gateway Community Foundation currently has a Trail Fund balance of \$46,951. United Federal Credit Union also donated \$20,000 to the Trail after the TCF Bank Property transaction. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was approved and carried.

City Planning Commission: McDonald reported that Richard Martin has officially joined the City Planning Commission. He is a very well - respected citizen of the Buchanan Community and has been very active in the Buchanan Tree Friends. Most recent actions of the City Planning Commission have been Cannabis-related.

Fund-Raising Events: Nothing new to report.

Trail Extension: Flenar showed figures from the last SWMPC meeting regarding the Trail Extension toward River St. Joe Brewery. Numbers will be adjusted as more grant information becomes available. Local, TAPS, MDNR, and NATS figures now total nearly \$1,000,000. He also relayed that River Street Bridge Construction, with sidewalks on both sides covered by County Revenue, will begin Late June though Early August.

Trail Projects: Flenar reported that he has requested 4-5 visits from The Berrien County Inmates Work Crew for 2022. He noticed that a water return chute at Bainton Mill has become dilapidated, and we should try to fix the issue. The Eagle Scout Project to build a staircase from Lloyd's Loop to the west end of Proud Creek Bridge should proceed this spring or summer. McClellan reported that he and Writer had been editing the Trail Brochure for accuracy and necessary updates before authorizing printing. He summarized changes and requested members analyze the brochure for other possible changes. Burgoyne suggested a change in some of the Legend symbols, and Jacobs wondered if we could increase the map size by moving the Legend and increasing the size of brochure stock. T. Green will check with her employee Renee about our outdated QR Code and the possibility of being able to access the Trail Friends' Facebook Webpage with one click on the City Website. McClellan also reported on the Thank You Note/Postcard project. The design is being finalized, and the printing of the brochures and postcards is being planned. The total number of copies for each is yet to be decided, as well as finding an appropriate printing company for our needs.

Community Projects: Dougherty reported that the River St. Joe Brewery is going to open a downtown restaurant on Days Avenue in Buchanan in the former Emery's Restaurant location. It will be "dine-in and "takeout" as well. Hard Cider, Wine, and Mead will be available in addition to an array of soft drinks. Flenar reported that 4 new composite benches are being stored at the DPW until spring installation. Included are the Sheila Daly Memorial Bench, The Buchanan Promise Bench, and the Michigan Gateway Community Foundation donation bench honoring Louis Desenberg. Signage for the 4 newly discovered Mill Sites researched by Peter Lysy should be completed this year. The American Chestnut Trees planted along the Trail will be maintained by Cole Martin. Jerry Flenar will be trimming the trees next Wednesday, March 2.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be April 21,2022 at 7:00 p.m. City Hall. Meeting Adjourned at 8:19 p.m. Respectfully Submitted, Don Brooks, Secretary.