

Friends of McCoy's Creek Trail Executive Committee Informational Report for attempted meeting on September 21,2023 at 9:00 a.m. City Hall.

Because a quorum could not be reached (minimum 6 members required), Chairperson Flenar gave the following information to those present. In attendance: Flenar, Jacobs, Burgoyne, McDonald, and Brooks. Visitors: Ashley Regal and Jennifer Garry.

Agenda: The agenda for the intended meeting was presented.

Public Comments: N/A

Secretary's Report: No official report was given, but Brooks summarized the issues/reports talked about at the August 24,2023 informational discussions.

Treasurer's Report: No official report was available for presentation, but Flenar relayed that \$2,000 more of the \$26,000 in pledges for Phase 3 has been collected. \$21,000 of the \$26,000 pledged has been collected. Flenar also discussed the recent vandalism at the Bainton Mill Site, where \$954 worth of damage has been inflicted on the cyclone fencing and poles.

Planning Commission: No Trail news was available, but McDonald discussed the coming of Taco Bell to the former Hill Top Restaurant site, the plans for a Biggby's Coffee where Tasty Freeze/Punky's Ice Cream used to be located, and that The Corner Building will be hosting 5-6 businesses.

Berrien County Inmates' Work Crew: The Berrien County Inmates' Work Crew was scheduled for a workday today, but this event was cancelled. The crew will come back for workdays in the spring of 2024.

Fund-Raising Events: Nothing in the works for this year appears possible for a "Run Event".

Trail Dues Envelopes: \$2000 worth of Trail Dues Envelopes are currently being stored at the Randy Hendrixson Building where the Lions Club also has been graciously afforded space.

Roe Street Gardens Maintenance: The Roe Street Gardens near the Tin Shop Theatre had not been recently maintained because of Redbud Roots being overly busy. Honor Credit Union has stepped up with a gracious offer to spruce up the gardens. They already maintain the War Memorial along the Trail.

Trail Directional Guideposts: Ashley Regal and Jennifer Garry have done excellent work along with hundreds of hours of donated labor by Edgewater Automation to design effective directional guideposts for the Downtown Trail. Composite posts seem to be a good choice for the directional signs. A new “icon” showing a Hiker/Tree/Creek will help the design dimensions needs. Five-foot posts made of green composite with metal overlays where needed should be very attractive and highly functional. The Trail Membership attending was very impressed by the great work of the “Design Team”.

Trek-or-Treat: Preparations for the Trek-or-Treat Event are well underway. Flenar has talked with the Police, City Officials, Clark Labs, Edgewater Automation, and other groups regarding the event. Brooks has distributed candy collection bins to 8 locations around town. Candy purchases and other details will be finalized at our October meeting on the 19th. Flenar has raised several hundreds of dollars for candy purchases from local businesses and Scarecrow Charities, Inc.

Lloyd Miller and Mae Proud Memorials: The Miller Family would like a memorial bench with two trees planted, a White Dogwood and a Redbud Tree. They also desire a Five-foot windchimes, hung by cable over the Lloyd’s Landing Deck in Spafford Woods. \$1700 has been donated, and they would cover overages. The Mae Proud Memorial donations total \$2200, but no specific project has been determined.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be October 19,2023 at 9:00 a.m. City Hall. Respectfully submitted, Don Brooks, Secretary.