
Friends of the Outlet, Inc. Meeting

Wednesday, April 24

Attendees

Gwen Chamberlain, Rachel Knapton, Phil Rahr, Nancy Tharp, Rob Schwarting, Deb Clancy, Steve Miller, Kristi Hoag, Peg Thompson, Tom McGuigan

Guests

Kristin Burch, Boy Scouts: Mike Maschewske, Gavin Ingle, Bill Weber

Gwen Chamberlain called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

Public Comment

Introduction of Gavin Ingles, who will be working on an Eagle Scout project with the Outlet Trail. Gavin is from Troop 82 and would like to focus on woodworking/building something for the trail. Gwen suggested railings could be built in less-than-safe areas, or split rail fencing in front of logs east of waterfall.

Connect Gavin with Mickey Orr and Norm Cook to work with on his project.

Deadline for completion would be first week of August

Gavin could look for donations through Social Media/Boy Scouts, and could also approach local businesses for donations (of lumber, supplies, etc.)

The scout troops at least twice a year walk the full trail to pick up garbage. Big proponents of the trail

Bill Webber-- Pat Killen is voting on a state grant that the commissioners agreed to donate money to help with cleanup efforts on the trail. It will still take some time, but Bill assures that it is being worked on. Gwen mentions that we might need permits if we're going into the water to clean things out, but Bill assures that it won't be a problem. When the money comes in will be the best time to pursue permits.

Annual Report

Election of Directors

We have 2 members renewing (Dan Condella, Tom McGuigan), and 3 new members up for election.

Kristin Burch

Susan Spence

Daniel Mackey

Rob moves we cast one ballot, Kristi Seconds
All in favor; opposed; The ayes have it.

Amending the bylaws:

Peg explains: The board has voted to have up to 19 members on the board at a time. No new alternative language was proposed about policies and procedures for this year. Cleaning up some phrasing in the bylaws (Friends of the Outletrail Inc, should just be Friends of the Outlet Inc)

Peg proposes the change. Rachel seconds it. Passes.

Gwen recognizes Kristi Hoag for her service to the board. Gwen also recognizes Peg Thompson for her service, commending her for her dedication, and for “breathing life” back into the organization 6 years ago. Peg was instrumental in pushing the group forward when it could have been on the brink of disbandment.

Election of Officers

Peg is the chairman of the committee (until midnight!)

Rob proposes the slate of nominees be voted for on one ballot
Kristi seconds
In favor; opposed; The ayes have it.

Maintenance Report (Presented by Mickey Orr)

Gwen shares that they have a price on a pavillion (\$13,000, plus cost of the roof)
Ivan is ready to tear it down, Gwen has the permit
Mickey shared with Gwen that Ivan has a crew ready to take down the Kelley Tire Building!
Rob requests that Ivan come up with a scope of work that will be done so that we can vote as a board on the work to be done. Rob would also like the work being done to be mindful of water that runs through that area. Kristi recommends we make sure the public is made aware of work being done prior to it starting for their safety.

Gwen motions for March minutes to be approved. Kristi seconds. All ayes. Minutes accepted.

Finance Report (presented by Gwen)

Since November 1, 2018, thanks to Kristi, we have received memberships/donations/sponsorships in the total of \$15,193

Membership Report (Presented by Kristi Hoag)

Of the members we had last year, 67% have renewed their membership to date. Kristi continues to encourage personal contact with our members to help sustain our relationship with our members.

Membership Revenue to date:

Pay Pal - \$1380

Cash/Checks - \$9100

Member Donations - \$508

Pet Memberships - \$200

Total - \$11,188.00

Membership Data for April:

New Members - 1

Renewal Members - 12

Pet Members - 2 (2 New Pet Members; 0 Renewal Pet Members)

Renewal Level Data for April:

0 Members renewed at higher levels of membership

2 Members renewed at lower levels of membership

10 Members renewed at the same level of membership

67% of 2018-19 Members have renewed to date.

Total Membership - 370

Planning Committee (presented by Rob Schwarting)

Rob is setting up a meeting with Jeff Gifford.

Some research on trapping on the trail. We can regulate it. Trapping is now prohibited on the trail, and we will put up signs during the season (November-February).

Rob recommends setting up a planning meeting to discuss long and short range plans.

Community Relations Report (presented by Phil Rahr)

Wildflower Walk is coming up on May 4th.

On Monday, we sponsored a trail clean-up with St. Michael's school. Lots of trash and debris/sticks was picked up! The school paid \$100 for school buses to take the students to the trail and Phil proposes that we refund the cost. Kristi recommends it be a finance committee decision. Rob recommends sending a letter to St. Mike's parents, thanking the students for their services.

(There was a situation with ticks on the trail, something we should do a PSA about.) Phil recommends Permethrin for treating clothing, by stresses that it cannot be in the water as it is dangerous for aquatic life.

Phil discusses having articles of clothing that we can wear as board members to advertise ourselves at events.

Quotes on promotional items to use for our photo hunt and upcoming writing and art contests. Phil will have more information after meeting with the Community Relations Committee about what items specifically we might want to order. Gwen says we have money left over from the 2018 TACT money we could use for that.

Phil motions we spend \$800 on promotional items (to be decided upon by the community relations committee at their next meeting)

Rob so moves

Kristin Seconds

The Ayes have it. The motion passes.

Kristi advises that if we are spending money on giveaway items, we need to be cognizant of how to up memberships in order to replace those spent dollars so it's not just a loss of money.

Rob recommends contacting area AirBNBs and encouraging them to become corporate members of the trail.

President's Report (Presented by Gwen Chamberlain)

Cascade Buildings: Awaiting results of the building survey by Arcadis.

Grants: Yates County Legislators have approved \$15,000 reimbursements for the Cascade Pavilion.

Bank erosion repairs: Awaiting response from All Around Excavating.

Debris clearing: I have asked for guidance from Yates County Soil & Water Conservation in applying for a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers to put equipment in the waterway to clear debris.

Trout Stocking: DEC & Trout Unlimited plan to stock trout April 25 beginning at Cascade at 9:30 a.m. and traveling west to Milo Mills.

Newsletter: The Arc of Yates Print Shop is closing, so we need to find another print shop, and work toward offering the newsletter via email as an option that can save printing costs. Our bookkeeping software does have the ability to create a mailing list that will easily allow sending electronic newsletters, but we know there are still people who want to receive hard copies.

Celebrate Service/Celebrate Yates: I have requested up to 10 volunteers to report to Cascade. They can put preservative on the picnic tables and clear the trail in preparation for mowing. I plan to be onsite around 1:30 p.m.

Signs: I expect Milo Highway crew will be able to install the signs soon. Cascade/Mays Mills will go into production as soon as I review a final proof.

Flowers: A Girl Scout Troop will be planting flowers near the Seneca Millsite with guidance from

Peg Thompson.

Volunteer Fair: Keuka Comfort Care Home is planning a Volunteer Fair for Sept. 28 at PY Presbyterian Church and we have been invited to participate. The board agrees that we should have a presence at the fair. Kristi and Gwen had the idea to have a group of volunteers (maybe called Trail Tamers) that go out on the trail to pick up debris on a regular basis. Rachel suggests doing something like the Adopt-a-Highway program, so each section could say "this section of the trail is sponsored by:".

National Trails Day: June 1. I have applied for granola bars that we can hand out on the trail that weekend and donate to Milly's Pantry again.

Board Comments

Deb will talk with Frames Galore and More about giving poster buyers a deal on a frame.

Rachel makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 PM

Phil seconds.

Meeting adjourns at 8:32 PM.