

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

Non-Motorized Trails Committee

Minutes - May 9, 2023

1. Meeting called to order by Anne Small at 5:32 PM
2. Roll call: Present were Jimmy Vogel, Jim Swenson, Penny McCormick, Bob Schell, and Anne Small, from the committee. Also present was Terry Duke.
3. Open meeting verification: Anne Small posted agendas before 5:30 PM on May 8, 2023
4. Jim Swenson made motion to approve minutes of the April meeting, Bob Schell seconded. Motion carried.
5. Citizen Concerns - none
6. Awassa Trail
 - a. Trail Report – Jim Swenson took down the orange fencing on 50' corridor and also took down more Christmas ornaments that he found on trail. Jimmy Vogel plans to get out and brush the yellow loop next week.
 - b. Discuss issue of Christmas ornaments along trail – committee agreed that the Christmas ornaments people put out along the trail are getting a little out of hand. Many end up broken or on the ground. At least three bags of ornaments were removed from the trees so far, in addition to the ones that one family was asked to take down. Committee plans to post signs at trailhead asking people not to put out decorations along the trails because they end up becoming trash and make more work for volunteers to remove. Anne Small and Bob Schell will speak with two of the families who we know put out some of the decorations.
7. Fern Ridge Trail
 - a. Trail report – Jimmy Vogel said trail is still wet on the bike trail, so it remains closed. Hiking trail is open and needs to be blown.
 - b. Speed bump for Forest Lane – Jim Swenson said that with the yard waste site staying open, a speed bump on the road would be wise. He said that one before the shed and one just beyond the gate towards the yard waste facility would be good locations for them. Jimmy Vogel talked to Tom Stoltman about the speed bumps, and that we will need to also purchase warning signs for the speed bumps. Bob Schell said that we should let the snowmobile club know that the speed bumps will be taken up before winter.
8. Bike & Hike Trail
 - a. Trail Report – Jimmy Vogel said that the trail is all blown off, but still some icy patches. Jimmy said that there are a few maintenance issues: along County C where utility workers bored through the blacktop and also a section cut out by Holiday, there is a stretch of pavement missing where the connector comes out across from South Bay Rd, which is now a pothole. Jim Swenson will talk to Mark Ratty at DOT about adding pavement to the South Bay connector by highway. Anne Small to order 10 stop signs to replace damaged and faded signs along the trail.
9. Treasurer's report
 - a. Account balances – Awassa Trails: \$4863.76, Fern Ridge: \$12, 478.72, Hike & Bike: \$50,514.74, Other: \$26,156.30
10. Schedule trail work day – Committee to meet and brush segment from South Bay Trailhead to Old Hwy 70 on May 15, 2023, at 4:00 PM
11. Other ideas/input from committee – Jeanna Vogel sent an email asking if we would discuss whether we still want to receive the room tax allocation. Committee agreed that we still wanted to continue receiving the room tax allocation and possibly request more on years when we have bigger projects.
12. Schedule next committee meeting – June 6, 2023, at 6:30 PM
13. Meeting adjourned at 6:41 PM by Anne Small