

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

Non-Motorized Trails Committee Minutes from February 6, 2024

1. Meeting called to order by Anne Small at 6:01 PM
2. Roll call: Present were Bob Schell, Penny McCormick, Jim Swenson, Jimmy Vogel, and Anne Small.
3. Open meeting verification: Anne Small posted meeting agendas on February 4th, 2024
4. Read and approve minutes of last regular meeting: Bob Schell makes motion to approve minutes from January committee meeting, Jim Swenson seconds. Motion carries.
5. Citizen Concerns: none
6. Awassa Trail
 - a. Trail Report – Jimmy Vogel said trails have not been groomed. Anne Small said she collected the book walk story boards so that Emilie Braunel at the Plum Lake Library can put the new story book together.
 - b. Candlelight Event – Feb 17, 6-8 PM – Jimmy Vogel said that the luminaries he made to this point are still holding up and should be good for the event next weekend if they can get through the next couple days of warm weather. Anne Small will purchase torches for lighting the candles with the remaining Thrivent grant funds. Anne Small will reach out to WJFW about doing a story about the candlelight event. Committee members will meet at 9 am on Feb 17th to put out the luminaries and candles, then will meet at 4:30 for lighting the candles.
7. Fern Ridge Trail
 - a. Trail report – Jim Swenson said he hasn't been grooming and that we should close the bike trails for the next few days when it will be very warm conditions.
8. Bike & Hike Trail
 - a. Trail Report – Jim Swenson asked if we should possibly be working on replacing the decking on the bridge along the highline during this warm spell. Committee decided it would be best to wait on this project.
9. Treasurer's report
 - a. Account balances- Awassa Trails: \$4031.50, Fern Ridge Trail: \$20,525.12, Hike & Bike: \$21,455.05, Other: \$29,251.12
10. Forest Management Plan: Anne Small presented committee with the same forest management plan for Awassa Trails and Fern Ridge Trails parcels of town forest property that the committee presented to the town board in 2022, but removed the golf course parcels from the plan. Committee will present this updated forestry management plan to the board at the Feb 12th town board meeting.
11. Recommend temporary chairperson during Anne Small's leave of absence: Bob Schell makes motion to recommend that the town board appoint Jim Swenson as the temporary chair, Penny McCormick seconds. Motion carries.
12. Other ideas/input from committee: none
13. Schedule next committee meeting: March 4, 2024, at 6 PM
14. Anne Small adjourning meeting at 7:20 PM