

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN
Non-Motorized Trails Committee
Minutes February 23, 2021

- 1) Meeting called to order at 5:37 PM
- 2) Roll call: committee members present were Bob Schell, Penny McCormick, Anne Small, Jimmy Vogel, Jim Swenson. Absent was Lynn Upthagrove. Also present was Terry Duke.
- 3) Open meeting verification: Anne Small stated she posted the meeting agenda before 5:30 pm on February 22, 2021.
- 4) Read and approve minutes of last meetings: Jim Swenson made motion to approve minutes from the December committee meeting with the correction of the donation amount from Len and Pam Larson as \$150 rather than \$100. Jimmy Vogel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bob Schell made motion to approve the minutes from the January committee meeting, Jim Swenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- 5) Citizen Concerns -none
- 6) Awassa Trail

- a) Trail Report –

Jimmy Vogel said that the photo session with the photographers from Vilas Tourism went well. They did both fat biking and snowshoeing shots.

Penny McCormick asked if anyone took down the Christmas ornaments that someone had put up on the trail. Anne Small said they were still out on the trail. Penny said that she could go out and take them down and put them in a box with a “thank you” notice to whomever decorated the trees and say that they can be picked up if they contact the trail committee. Anne Small said she could post on the Facebook page and on the kiosk.

Penny McCormick asked if we were going to go ahead with ordering a bike rack for the trailhead behind the elementary school. Committee agreed to look for a rack that could be used by both fat bikes and narrow tired bikes.

Jimmy Vogel asked if the donation boxes have been checked lately. Anne Small said she could go out early next week to check them.

Anne Small reported that Awassa Trail did receive a generous donation of \$1000 in February.

- 7) Fern Ridge Trail

- a) Trail report – Terry Duke said that he was at the trail over the weekend and it was in great shape, and hopes that they don’t do any cutting out there because it is so beautiful the way it is. Terry mentioned that it was confusing where the blue loop went out by Hwy 155. Anne Small said that the committee should work on rerouting that along the flagged route so that it is easier to follow and stays completely off of the ATV/snowmobile trail.

- b) Review mountain bike trail bids- Jimmy Vogel presented the two received bids for the work on the mountain bike trails at Fern Ridge. The bids included one from Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails LLC for the amount of \$228,150. The other bid was from Travis Bellman Home and Trail in the amount of \$66,177, which included the trail volunteers clearing the brush from the trail corridor. Anne Small made motion to recommend to the town board that we accept the bid from Travis Bellman, with additional fundraising by the committee to cover the cost over the \$25,185 grant and \$25,185 commitment from the town. Jimmy Vogel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- c) Mountain bike trail/fundraising update: Jimmy Vogel informed committee that so far the fundraising letter has raised \$7125, \$500 donation was made to St Germain Silent Trail UA for use on this project, and also \$500 commitment from Lynn Upthagrove at Cedaroma.

- 8) Bike & Hike Trail

- a) Trail Report – Bob Schell asked if there was more brushing needed along County C. Jim Swenson said that the town crew did brush up to Ross Lake Road, but more will most likely be needed beyond there.

- b) Repair of bike trail along County C by Big St Germain Dr – Jimmy Vogel said that this part of the trail still needs repair. He said that water is flowing off of the road surface and washing the soil out below the trail. Jim Swenson said he did as Tim Ebert to look at it last fall, but didn't hear back from him. Committee agreed to take a look at the trail damage once snow melts and make recommendation for repair. This will be put on a meeting agenda for the spring.
 - c) Applying for grant for trail along 50' corridor – Anne Small said that she would be willing to do the work on applying for grant funding if the town board agrees to funding half of the project, as required by the grant. Jim Swenson said he will get this question added to March 8th town board meeting agenda.
 - d) Discuss room tax \$12,000 disbursement between Hike & Bike Trail, Fern Ridge, and Awassa Trails – Jimmy Vogel asked whether the committee could be able to decide where these funds are directed each year. Jim Swenson said he would ask the town board to allow the Non-Motorized Trails Committee to decide on where the funds get allocated.
- 8) Other ideas/input from committee - none
 - 9) Schedule next Trails Committee meeting – March 10, 2021 at 5:30 PM
 - 10) Meeting adjourned by Anne Small at 7:01 PM