

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN
Minutes for Non-Motorized Trail Committee
8/25/2021

1. Meeting called to order at 5:35 PM by Jim Swenson
2. Roll call: Present were Bob Schell, Jim Swenson, Jimmy Vogel, Lynn Uphagrove, Penny McCormick, Terry Duke and Anne Small
3. Open meeting verification: Minutes posted by Anne Small on Aug 23.
4. Read and approve minutes of last regular meeting: Jimmy Vogel made motion to approve minutes, Jim Swenson seconded. Motion carried
5. Citizen Concerns: none
6. Awassa Trail
 - a. Trail Report – Jimmy Vogel said that he and Terry Duke cleared the downed trees from the recent storm. Jimmy Vogel noted that there is one still hanging, but it isn't a safety issue, and we could rent a skidsteer to take it down before the snows start.

Jimmy Vogel asked if we should put a donation box at Eaglewatch trailhead. Committee agreed that it would be a good idea.

Jim Swenson said we should have Vilas Tourism change the name of the loops on the trail app to match the color names, rather than the tree names. Anne Small said she would contact Cindy and she would also send the GPX file of the new yellow loop.
7. Fern Ridge Trail
 - a. Trail report – Jimmy Vogel said one tree top fell from the storm and was cleared.
 - b. Mountain bike trail fundraising – Jimmy Vogel said that we had received another \$1300 from the donation letters, bringing the total from the letters to \$11,125. He said that the raffle has brought in \$5527.25, including \$52.25 from donations. Jimmy Vogel said that the flea market sales have varied based on weather and the date.

Jimmy Vogel suggested that it would be nice to have a Venmo link at the trails for electronic donations. Anne Small said that someone would need to link that to a bank account. Terry Duke suggested having a separate one for each trail as a way to track the donations. Jimmy Vogel said he could as the treasurer about getting Venmo set up.
 - c. Mountain bike trail work update – Jimmy Vogel reported that the trail corridor has been cut, but no other work has been done yet. Jimmy Vogel said that Travis Bellman originally said he would be completed with some of the trails by the end August, but he had some delays. Mr Bellman told Jimmy that he should still be done before winter.
 - d. Discussion of open house event – Sept 4th – committee discussed who would be bringing items for the open house. Jimmy Vogel would give the walking bike trail tours. Anne Small said she would do a mushroom hike, put together a scavenger hunt for the kids, and have an animal track printing activity. Bob Schell would bring hot dogs. Penny McCormick would provide water, ice and coolers.
 - e. Discussion of sledding hill – Jimmy Vogel said that he and Jim Swenson walked out at the proposed sledding hill site to determine what was needed. Jimmy Vogel said that wooden snow fence would be needed to keep snowmobiles off the sledding hill area. He said that old telephone poles can be cut up to use as fence posts. Jimmy Vogel also said that plastic snow fencing would then be used to block off the new gate area.

Bob Schell asked about the stumps at the bottom of the hill. Jim Swenson said that Jimmy could do that with the front end loader.

Bob Schell made motion for \$1000 to be spent to put up fencing, poles and a gate, with work to be done by the committee. Jimmy Vogel seconded the motion.
8. Bike & Hike Trail
 - a. Trail Report – Jimmy Vogel and Terry Duke cleared downed trees from the last storm.
 - b. Discussion/Action: placement of warning tiles at Hwy 70 crossings for spur leading into community park – Bob Schell made motion to table until early spring. Jim Swenson seconded. Motion carried.

Jim Swenson said he would inquire with the DOT about how to go about placing the tiles at the crossings.
9. Treasurer's report on account balances- Anne Small gave the account balance info she received from Jeanna Vogel. Bike & Hike Trail - \$55,219.86, Fern Ridge - \$23,826.85, Awassa - \$3278.02
10. Other ideas/input from committee - none
11. Next committee meeting scheduled for Sept 28, 2021, at 5:30 PM.
12. Anne Small adjourned the meeting at 7:13 PM

