

Town of St Germain
Non-Motorized Trails Committee Minutes
Nov 29, 2021, at 5:30 PM

1. Meeting called to order at 5:35 PM
2. Roll call: Present were committee members Jim Swenson, Jimmy Vogel, Lynn Uthagrove, Bob Schell, Penny McCormick, Terry Duke, and Anne Small. Also attending was Jeanna Vogel.
3. Open meeting verification: Anne Small stated that she posted the meeting agendas before 5:30 PM on November 27, 2021.
4. Read and approve minutes of last regular meeting: Motion made by Bob Schell to approve the minutes of the October meeting, seconded by Jimmy Vogel, motion carried.
5. Citizen Concerns: none
6. Consider allowing warming fires at Fern Ridge and Awassa Trail during snow season: Jim Swenson said that fires are currently prohibited. Committee agreed that it would be good to allow warming fires at set location at Awassa Trails and Fern Ridge during the snow season. Jim Swenson would bring this suggestion to the town board.
7. Discussion/action – fire pits for Fern Ridge and Awassa Trail – Jimmy Vogel said that we could keep a stock of firewood at each location. Committee agreed that the fire pit at Awassa would be located just inside the woods by the school trailhead and fire pit for Fern Ridge would be best close to the trailhead. Committee to work on this after approval of town board.
8. Discussion/action – purchase of trail counters: Jimmy Vogel presented idea of purchasing TRAFx trail counters for each of the trail systems. He said that the counters themselves could be moved to different locations based on where we would like to collect data about trail use. Jimmy Vogel made motion to purchase 6 TRAFx trail counter package in the amount of \$4500 with the money to come out of the Hike and Bike account. Bob Schell seconded motion. Motion carried.
9. Who would like to be the GiveButter Administrator for trail donations: Jeanna Vogel said that the administrator would be in charge of setting up and maintaining the page. Anne Small and Jimmy Vogel agreed to be administrators and would meet at later date to finish setup.
10. Awassa Trail
 - a. Trail Report: Terry Duke and Jimmy Vogel both reported that all of the trail loops are in good shape for the winter season.
11. Fern Ridge Trail
 - a. Trail report: Jim Swenson said that all of the hiking trail loops are in good shape for winter.
 - b. Mountain bike trail progress/donation update: Jimmy Vogel said that the Travis Bellman was still building trail and will let Jimmy know when he is done for the year. Travis ended up having to do a 200' reroute of planned trail route, the cost of which was already approved by the board.

Jimmy Vogel said that two \$250 donations were received. He also noted that WPS will be sending a \$1000 grant to the Silent Trails UA for the Fern Ridge mountain bike trail project.
 - c. Recommend purchasing picnic tables for trailhead:
12. Bike & Hike Trail
 - a. Trail Report: Jimmy Vogel suggested that after we make a decision on whether to use the Trex benches earned by the Sayner St Germain Fish and Wildlife Club plastic recycling project, then we can try to match the style of picnic tables. Bob Schell said he has connections at Trex and will contact someone about possible tables before next meeting.
13. Treasurer's report
 - a. Account balances: Hike and Bike Trail - \$54,741.60, Awassa Trails - \$3,431.00, Fern Ridge Trail - \$34,702.98

14. 2022 raffle – Jimmy Vogel contacted Andy at Chequamegon Adventure Sports about purchasing either a Yukon 2 fat bike or a full suspension mountain bike at cost. Committee agreed to go with the fat bike. Other raffle items to be discussed at later date.
15. Other ideas/input from committee – Jim Swenson noted that the sledding hill is on hold at this point because new DNR official questioned location of the cap of the old dump at the yard waste facility.
Committee also discussed needs for the preparation of the Fern Ridge winter event in January. Anne Small said she would update posters. Jimmy Vogel suggested making a temporary kiosk for posting trail information and events at the Fern Ridge trailhead.
16. Next committee meeting scheduled for Dec 20, 2021 at 5:30 PM
17. Anne Small adjourned meeting at 7:27 PM