

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN
Non-Motorized Trails Committee Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2022

1. Meeting called to order by Anne Small at 5:31 PM
2. Roll call: present were Jim Swenson, Jimmy Vogel, Bob Schell, Penny McCormick and Anne Small. Gary Penner was also present.
3. Open meeting verification: Anne Small posted meeting agenda before 5:30 PM on July 11, 2022
4. Jim Swenson made motion to approve minutes of last meeting, Jimmy Vogel seconded, motion carried.
5. Citizen Concerns: none
6. Awassa Trail
 - a. Trail Report: Jimmy Vogel said that he still has to get the bike rack installed by school trailhead. Jimmy Vogel also said he cleaned up a downed tree on trail and wondered if we should mow all of the loops during the summer.
7. Fern Ridge Trail
 - a. Trail report- Anne Small said that she and Jimmy Vogel went out to figure out the exact sign count for the trails. Anne Small created a new trail map with all trails included. She will order the signs and pay for them with funds raised from the Freedom 5K. Jimmy Vogel said that many people are using the new bike trails and they are getting good reviews. Jimmy Vogel said that we need to order and install signs along the yard waste road that say "slow down, trail crossing".
 - b. Planning open house event for August 13th at Fern Ridge Trail, 10 am-2pm: The event will start with a ribbon cutting. Bob Schell said he would get hot dogs and chips for the event. He will bring grill. Jimmy Vogel will bring along the bike raffle tickets to sell at event. Jim Swenson will bring bottled water. Bob Schell will order 4 vinyl signs from Ace for the sign in town. Jimmy Vogel will bring cornhole and maybe some other games to have for people at the trailhead. Anne Small will lead two mushroom hikes during the event, make fliers for the event, and do a writeup for the newspaper. Jim Swenson said that they could also bring 4 more picnic tables from the town park. Rain date will be August 14th.
8. Bike & Hike Trail
 - a. Trail Report: Jimmy Vogel said that he mowed before the Independence Day weekend and plans to edge trail. He needs to coordinate with Gary Peters from Golf Course on use of edger. Jim Swenson said that the town board accepted the bid from Pitlik for \$28,020 for the crack sealing of bike trail. Committee to notify trail users when the work will be occurring.
 - b. Discuss email regarding concerns about ATV trail on high line – Jimmy Vogel shared an email received from an individual who accesses the bike trail from Halberstadt Rd via the snowmobile trail access across the highway. She was concerned about encountering UTVs as they went down that access trail. Anne Small wasn't sure if the landowner ever gave permission for bikers to use that snowmobile trail across his property to access the bike trail. Jim Swenson said he would try to contact the landowner. If landowner agreed to access, then we would put up caution signs so that users know there will be both motorized and non-motorized users.

The individual who sent the email was also concerned about the places along the high line on the bike trail where the ATV trail crosses, resulting in gravel on the trail. Gary Penner said that one solution would be for the bikers to stop at the ATV trail. Then the ATVs wouldn't be stopping and starting, which is what kicks the gravel onto the trail. Anne Small suggested putting up signs that say "caution gravel on trail". Jimmy said that he would try to get out and clear gravel off of trail on occasion, but that we could leave a broom in a stand at the intersection closest to Cty J, which tends to get the most gravel. People could then help out by clearing the gravel when it gets bad. Committee agreed that this would be a good method to try. Jimmy Vogel also said that he will be installing the ATV trail crossing signs at those intersections.

9. Treasurer's report
 - a. Account balances: Awassa Trail \$3,487.21, Fern Ridge Trail -\$2,208.28, Bike & Hike Trail \$48,747.76
10. Determine memorial bench costs – Committee looked at current bench costs and decided that a memorial bench for bike trail would be \$850, and for Fern Ridge the cost would be \$600
11. Freedom 5K wrap up – Anne Small reported that the event raised \$4734.03 after expenses.
12. Other ideas/input from committee: Committee plans to set date for the 2023 candlelight event at Awassa at the August meeting.
13. Schedule next Trails Committee meeting: next meeting set for August 22, 2022, at 5:30 PM
14. Anne Small adjourned meeting at 7:27 PM