

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park
Board of Directors' Meeting 11/09/2016
Hamilton Township Hall, US Rt. 22, Maineville OH**

Call to Order at 7:00 p.m. by Ron Gorley

Introduction of Members and Guests - Ron

Present: Mike Dresch, Ron Gorley, Don Hahn, Paul Morgan, Steve Murphy, Aaron Rourke, Janet Slater, George Stockham, Bruce Cortright

Absent: Rich Easterly

Guests: none; Ken Elliot (ODNR) couldn't make it.

Confirm Aaron Rourke as Secretary - Ron (5 min)

George moved to approve, Don seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from October 13 - Janet (5 min)

George moved to approve as proffered, Don seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Mike (5 min)

As of 10/31/16

Cash On Hand:

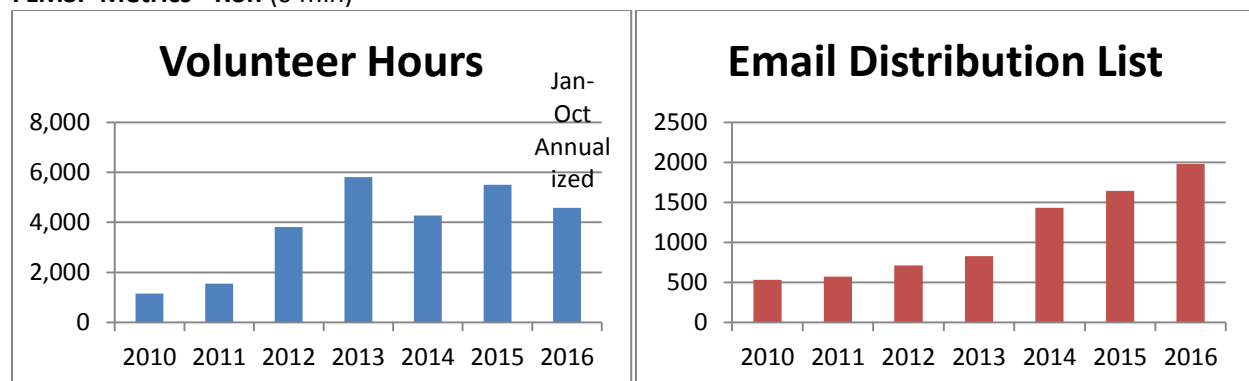
Savings Account \$37,114.85

Checking Account 9,658.00

Total \$46,772.85

All funds are unrestricted.

FLMSP Metrics - Ron (0 min)



Currently Paid Members: 293

Email distribution list grows every month. Janet reports that Facebook membership and Twitter links are growing, too. Currently about 600 Facebook 'likes'.

ODNR – Ron reported since Ken could not make the meeting. (15 min: 19:15-19:30)

- Ft Ancient closure update - targeted to open 11/23, before Thanksgiving.
- Shawnee Run closure update - may reopen tomorrow afternoon or Friday morning. Race on this section of trail Saturday morning; Paul will blow the trail off in advance of the race, and reopen the trail then if necessary.

- Paving in Clermont and Hamilton counties update – contractor is going to be doing the ditch work at McCracken, and north of Miamiville to the cutoff point in Loveland where paving begins; timeline – going on now and to continue for next few weeks; to be finished before paving begins 12/1.
- Greene County – rip rap installation going on in this section, to be finished by Friday.
- Ron & Paul met with Ken to discuss mowing – the good and bad of this past season, expectations for next year, and how the program will work with the intermittent employee. Extent (width) and frequency were a problem this year. Only did one full-width mowing out of six mowings this year; will do six full-width mowings next year. Width will go to the tree line on the uphill side, or the extent of adopter clearing, and the slope break on the downhill side. Volunteers will do the weed-whacking, which Ken says will save him four work days per week.
- Bruce asked if Paul or Ron had heard about an encounter between Jim Mason and an Indian Hill resident, which created a liability concern for Jim; nobody had. We will ask Ken about it next time.

Old Business (10 min: 19:30-19:40)

Just updated to 2017 Quickbooks for nonprofits for \$50. Board needs to decide whether we: (1) stay with the current process/accountant or (2) change to a local accountant and a less detailed audit or (3) change to a local accountant and stay with the detailed audit.

Aaron moved that we pro-approve up to \$1000 for Mike to get a 'Review' as understood by the accounting industry (as opposed to a full audit), and a long form 990 tax return completed. John seconded. Motion approved by acclamation.

Fundraising Direction - Ron (20 min: 19:40-20:00) Conversation revolved around creating a fundraising plan involving major donors (Steve identified 112 who have given \$114k, or \$1025 on average, minor donors, merchandise/dinners/etc., and grants. Paul suggested that this conversation might be deferred with the understanding that our next agenda item will include a fuller discussion of our strategy for fundraising, with responsibilities and accountabilities defined therein.

- Liz Lamar volunteering - she has agreed to volunteer to help with fundraising.
- IU Seminar – this is a fundraising seminar for \$1380 each, and Steve thinks it's worthwhile; it's a few hours per week for six weeks, online; the title is "Planned Giving". Ron moved paying up to \$700 to subsidize a member of FLMSF to attend the seminar; Don seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Better follow through with members and TrailMail contacts – this is working; response to re-join email was positive.
- More emphasis on grant writing (paving is expensive) – we agree that this will be important for the foreseeable future.
- Market to Market, Autumn Blast, etc. Is this what we want to do? Conversation about the merits of these events for fundraising, friendraising, etc. No motions made or 'to-do' items assigned.

Board Alignment with Strategy (60 min: 20:00-21:00)

- Summary of 2014 trail user survey – Janet reported on this.

FLMSP 2014 Survey

(237 Responses)

Typical Respondent

- ◆ Cyclist
- ◆ Uses trail at least once a week
- ◆ Spends 1-3 hours each visit
- ◆ Donates to FLMSP

Most Visited Trail Sections

- ◆ Loveland
- ◆ Morrow
- ◆ Milford
- ◆ Corwin/Waynesville

Trail Improvements

(Rated 1-10 for level of attention each should receive)

Top answers:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| ◆ Repair cracks | 7.6 |
| ◆ Repave as much as possible | 6.5 |
| ◆ Stabilize riverbank | 6.5 |
| ◆ Improve sight lines at intersections | 6.3 |
| ◆ Invasive species control | 5.4 |
| ◆ Install 4-season restrooms | 5.1 |

Several respondents: "Trail surface is the most important; if not kept up, nothing else matters."

Safety Improvements

(Numbers are averages; scale 1-6)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| ◆ Eliminate Root Bumps | 5.1 |
| ◆ Fix Trail Slumps | 5.0 |
| ◆ Repair Cracks | 4.8 |
| ◆ Improve Trail Drainage | 4.5 |
| ◆ Blow debris from trail | 4.0 |
| ◆ Improve visibility at intersections | 4.0 |
| ◆ Flashing lights at intersections | 3.6 |
| ◆ Call 911 signs | 3.5 |

Convenience Improvements

(Scale is 1-5)

Top Rated:

- ◆ More restrooms or portalets 3.6
- ◆ More signs showing mileage to next town or restroom 3.2

Lowest Rated:

- ◆ Info booths with benches/bike racks 2.3
- ◆ Interpretive signs/naturalist displays 2.4

- Summary of 7 priorities from 2014 – Steve led a recap of the 2014 strategic plan for the group.
- Discussion on having all board members lead key priority work in 2017. Proposal for key 2017 priorities - Ron & Paul described how they created the 'Board Roles Draft' diagram from the 2014 strategic plan to serve our current needs for grasping the totality of the work that we need to do, and how we will assign responsibilities and accountabilities. To do item for all board members, before Thanksgiving: review the 'BRD' and correspond with Ron & Paul on proposed changes, if any, and then figure out where to put your name on the 'Board Rules Draft'. It can appear in more than one place. After this, each 2017 Leader will have until three days before the next meeting to draft and submit an action plan with the following elements, to Ron & Paul:
 - Goal Owner Team Strategies and Action Plans - each Goal Owner Team (the owner plus an assistant team leader recruited by the owner) is tasked with defining the Strategies and Action Plans for their respective Goal:
 - a. Define Strategies for each Goal.
 - b. Develop Action Plans for each Goal.
 - c. Develop human resource Budget, i.e. people.
 - d. Develop operating Budget, i.e. income and expenses.
 - e. Identify Constraints, e.g. obstacles to success.
 - f. Develop Outcomes, i.e. metrics to measure success or lack thereof.



2014 Survey
Summary.pptx



2014 Strategic Plan
Summary.docx



Board Roles
Draft.pptx

Email Voting After the Last Board Meeting

All three motions passed – this constitutes the official record in the meeting minutes.

Motion #1

To dispose unusable equipment: the undersized chipper and the difficult to use tar melter/applicator (both were given to FLMSP). (Don) Passed 8-0.

Motion #2

To rent a backhoe for 3 days for fence removal work at Camp Dennison. (Bruce) Passed 8-0.

Motion #3

To store FLMSP blower in the Train Stop barn at Foster. (Don). Passed 4-1, with one 'No' and three abstentions.

	Motion 1	Motion 2	Motion 3
Cortright	Y	Y	A
Dresch	Y	Y	Y
Easterly	Y	Y	N
Gorley			
Hahn	Y	Y	Y
Morgan	Y	Y	Y
Murphy			
Rourke	Y	Y	Y
Slater	Y	Y	A
Stockham	Y	Y	A
Result	Passes 8-0	Passes 8-0	Passes 4-1

Next Meeting -

2017 meetings will be at Hamilton Township hall in odd months, Wayne Township hall in the even months, on the second Wednesday at 7pm. Picnic in June at location TBD, and no meeting in December. Next meeting is January 11th.

Doppelt Fund grant

Steve will write the grant proposal if board members will submit needs. Another blower and DR mower, and microsurfacing paving were proposed.

Motion to adjourn

Aaron moved to adjourn at 910pm. John seconded, and all approved.