

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park
Board of Directors' Meeting 3/8/2017
Hamilton Township, OH**

Call to Order - Ron

Introduction of Members and Guests - Ron (5 min)

In attendance: Bruce Cortright, Mike Dresch, Ron Gorley, Steve Murphy, Paul Morgan (phone), Janet Slater (phone), George Stockham, Ken Elliott (ODNR), Brian Miller (ODNR), Tony Blizniak

Approval of Minutes from January 11 - Ron (5 min)



Minutes 2017-01-11
w Ron comments wo

January 11, 2017 minutes approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Mike (5 min)

As of 2/28/17

Cash On Hand:

Savings Account \$37,129.84

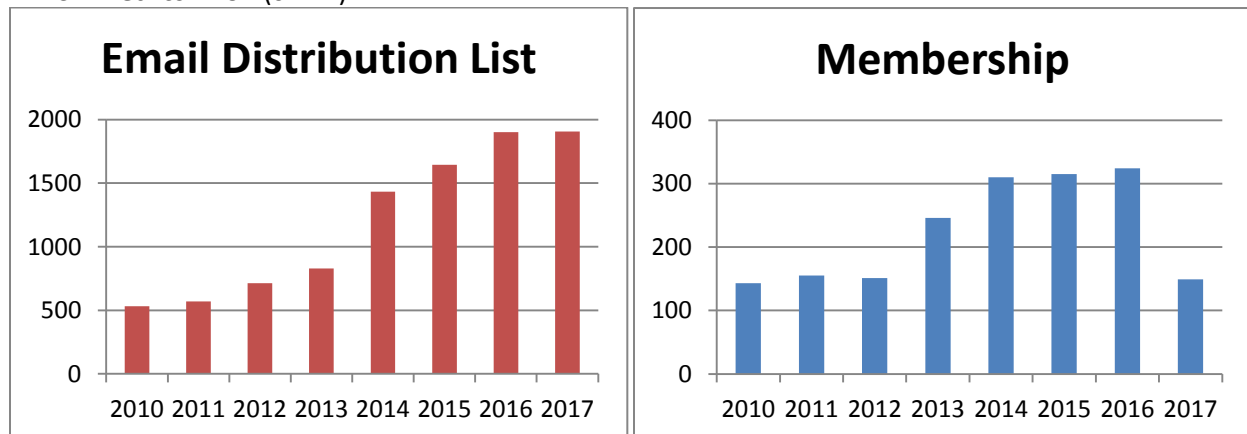
Checking Account 21,566.22

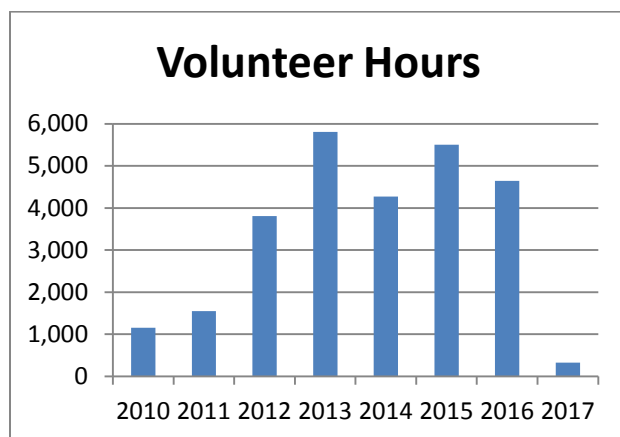
Total \$58,696.06

All funds are unrestricted

Steve mentioned that we have a fiduciary responsibility for the organization's money. But he asked, when do we need to think harder about spending the donations we received in order to prevent an escalating balance? General consensus that we don't need to hesitate spending money that will benefit trail users' experiences.

FLMSP Metrics - Ron (0 min)





ODNR - Ken (15 min)

- Paving south of Loveland timing is still unknown. It will depend on when the asphalt companies begin production. ODNR asked the contractor to provide signage to be posted in advance and during trail closures. Don suggested that since this is a big upgrade to the trail in Loveland and Miami Township, we should have a celebration. Don will contact Miami Township and Ron will contact Loveland to ask if they would like to participate in any celebration.
- Southern Construction Crew ditching concentrated on north and south of Wilmington Rd and in the Travertine Fen area in Spring Valley
- Major rain event on February 28 exposed weak areas. I-275 washed over. ODOT District 8 is checking into it. 12" culvert under Beech Rd. is too small to handle the water volume.
- Bruce mentioned that someone north of Avoca has been raking leaves and branches to the side of the trail. He will check into it to make sure that person doesn't intend to leave it that way.
- Graffiti - call #ODNR first
- Forestry survey will be conducted in the future. That may impact the priority of tree felling. Remember that trees cannot be cut between April 1 and September 30 unless they pose an imminent danger due to Indiana Bat habitat preservation.
- Brian announced that as of March 6, Melissa Clark will be the Park Manager for the Little Miami State Park in addition to her waterways responsibility for the Little Miami River. Thanks to Ken for his tenure as the previous manager.

Opening Day - Tony Blizniak / Ron (10 min)

- Rails-to-Trails is promoting the weekend of April 8-9 as Opening Day on the trails. Locally, Tri-State Trails is participating. Tony is setting up at Fosters to promote his bicycle tours. Train Stop may have a food truck available. What would we like to do to promote FLMSPP?
- Volunteers will be solicited and they can contact Paul Morgan who will coordinate for FLMSPP. Steve & Tony will cover Fosters. Paul will recruit at Corwin.

New Trail Link Near Fosters - Tony Blizniak (5 min)

- Meeting on March 2 with Hamilton Twp, MI Homes, Warren Co Engineers office, and Mark from Train Stop regarding construction of a new trail link from the development on top of the hill near Foster.
- MI Homes will fund the engineering proposal. The trail link is expected to come down Old 3C to the parking lot near the bathroom. Hamilton Twp is interested in expanding their parking lot between the Train Stop and the barns.

Benches - Ron (5 min)

- Liz Lamar and Kathy Vietor are leading the effort. They will have a proposed protocol to present to the Board by the April meeting. I have forwarded prior conversations to them. If you have additional comments, please send to them.
- Related discussion about GIS capability for benches and other trail information from our master list. Question regarding whether the information is retrievable from mobile phones. Steve will follow up. Tentative update scheduled for the Board meeting in May.

Towable DR Mower Motion - Bruce (15 min)

- Bruce recommends FLMSP purchase a DR trimmer with a 3 point hitch. The unit costs approximately \$800. *[Discussion: We could rent a tractor and clear the weeds that mowing does not reach. We don't have enough people to do this with the kombis and last year the weeds got out of hand. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k4VJ-OTcCnQ>]*
- Motion from Bruce to allocate up to \$1000 for purchase of DR trimmer and related accessories. Seconded by George. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Strategy - Ron, Don (30 min)

- Aaron is unable to fulfill his board responsibilities.
- We will review the Safety strategy today. Please be well familiar with Don's document prior to the meeting.
- Janet will review the Communications strategy during the April meeting. Send Janet your ideas for the upcoming survey.



Strategy -
Communications Team



Strategy - Funding
2-8-17.docx



Strategy - Asphalt
and Repaving Grants.



Strategy - ODNR
Relationship.docx



Strategy - Recruiting
& Placement.docx



Strategy - Safety
2-17.docx



Strategy -
Technology and Grant

Annual Meeting - Ron (10 min)

- Decision to meet at Fosters Point Community Center (same as 2016). Needs to be in April or May. Don Hahn will check availability.
- Consider change so the number of board members is consistent with the strategy.

Next Meeting -

April 12, 2017, 7pm. Wayne Township Administration Building.