

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park
General Board Meeting 11/13/2019
Wayne Township Administration Building
Loveland City Hall
120 W Loveland Ave, Loveland, OH 45140
Meeting Minutes**

Action points in green

Board motions in blue

Call to Order: Steve Murphy

Introduction of Members and Guests: Steve Murphy

Board Members Present: Steve Murphy, Dick Feldmann, Rick Forrester, Tom McCray, Bruce Cortwright, Becky Retzer

Board Members Excused: Ron Gorley

Guests: Don and Judy Mills, Joann Rizkallah, Kyle Ranck (ODNR)

Approval of Minutes from 10/09/2019: Becky Retzer motioned the Board minutes be approved.

Minutes Approved

Treasurer's Report - Dick Feldmann (5 min)

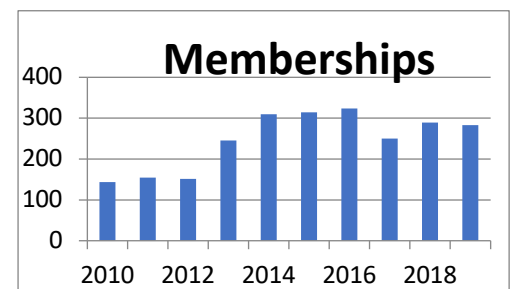
Cash on Hand:	09/30/2019	10/31/2019	
Savings Account	\$42,275.45	\$42,283.09	
Receivables	0	2,340.00	
Operating Account	23,103.65	17,972.30	
Total	\$65,379.10	\$62,595.39	\$9,583.63 Restricted \$1,1350 Reserved

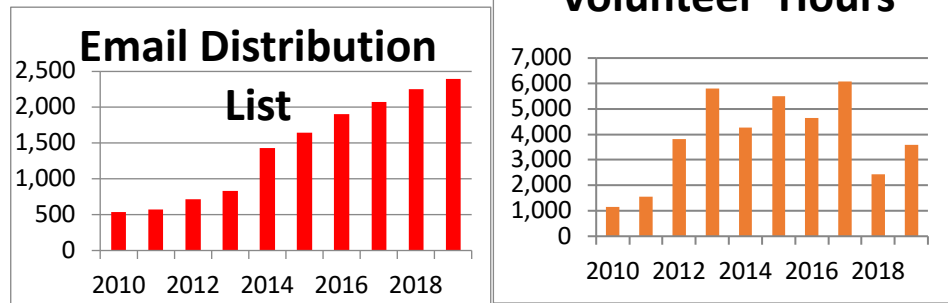
10/31/2019 Treasurer Narrative: Dick Feldmann

- **40th Anniversary**
- Results Plus software due in January \$1,000
- UPS Store mail drop due in January \$300
- Atlantic Casualty Insurance General Liability Policy expires 1/21; \$3,000
 - Dick motioned that \$1000 be paid to Results Plus Software, Bruce Seconded – Approved**
 - Dick motioned that the annual amount of \$300 be paid to the UPS Store for FLMSF Mailbox, Bruce seconded – Approved**
 - Dick motioned that FLMSF allocate up to \$3,000 for the General Liability Policy to Atlantic Casualty Insurance – Tom Seconded – Approved**

Metrics: Steve Murphy (5 min)

	<u>Oct 9</u>	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>+/-</u>
Email Distribution List:	2,401	2426	+25
Memberships:	296	314	+18
Same time last year:	264		+50
End of year 2018:	295		+19
Volunteer Hours:	3,594	3,956	+362
Facebook "Likes":	1,324	1,332	+8
Facebook "Follows"		1,412	





1. Strategic Plan.

1. Safety
2. Condition & Drainage
3. Volunteer Management
4. Amenities/Convenience
5. Beauty

2. News.

- "Did You Forget". Janet Slater. The "Did You Forget?" Constant Contact mailing netted us 42 new Trail Mail recipients and 77 new memberships. Should we do another "Did You Forget" mailing one in mid-November and a second one on December 4th (the day after Giving Tuesday) "Donate Now for Next Year and Take the Tax Deduction This Year".
- Membership Dues Increase. We have been at the current price point since 2009 --- 10 years.
- Lookup Volunteer Hours. www.flmsp.org now supports a volunteer looking up his/her volunteer hours.

Discussion about concerns of other members being able to see each others information took place. **Steve would check to see if this could be fixed.**

3. **ODNR.** Melissa Clark (reported by Kyle)

- Immediate.
 - 20 bags of cold patch that ODNR could supply through Waynesville Hardware and Don Mills would pick up.
 - 20 gallons of crack fill - same as above.
 - ODNR has committed to have their fall tree cutting crew address the sight lines at: 350 (Ft. Ancient/Morgans), Wilmington, Wards Corner, Strout and Oregonia.
 - There is a broken signpost in Morrow at Front St. This request was passed on to Kyle.
 - Open Issue: Why the Little Miami Canoe driveway has 2 new STOP signs when at best it should be a YIELD or STOP for them.
 - Open Issue: How to address the cracks from MM 3.3 to MM 6.1. This area should be a candidate for the next re-pave after Morrow.
- Short-term.
 - Brochures – Kyle reported that there is not funding for additional brochures at this time. FLMSMP cannot contact the State's printer to pay for brochures/maps for 2020.
 - We will place our annual ODOT sign order in November. If FLSMP could canvas sections and let us know how many new signs we need, we will order in November and receive them sometime in spring...stop signs, stop ahead, speed limit, curve, parking, bike, etc. That would be very helpful to us. Don Mills. The following signs have been ordered from ODNR:
 - 10 Stop
 - 13 Stop Ahead
 - 7 Dangerous Intersection
 - 6 No Parking
 - 2 Curvy Rd Ahead (the squiggly icon) for near Hensley Park reroute
 - Van Accessible Handicap Parking
 - Race St
 - Front St
 - Grandin Rd
 - Storm debris at MM 18.3 reported by Michael Hayden. The following report is from Tom McCray. "ODNR attacked this location back on June 27 and 28 in their first go-round with the excavator. Kyle probably pulled on the order of a dozen truckloads of debris out from both the up and down stream sides of this bridge. He was not able to get under the bridge and thus left a lot of debris. The debris up against and under the bridge needed manual attention and was indicated on the drainage tracker spreadsheet that I provided to ODNR before their run with the excavator in August.

This location is a chronic problem and I remove rocks and woody material from the bridge and the debris catcher a few times a year in hopes that the big storms will cause less problem. Doesn't always matter though.

I have not been by that area in several weeks and it appears from Michael's pics that the clog has gotten a lot worse. It will take a lot of manual work.”

- Medium-term.

- MM 49.5

Trail Sentinel Phil Obermiller has noticed a 60-foot long crack in the trail between mile marker 49.5 and 50.0, approximately four-tenths of a mile south of where the trail crosses Galbraith Road. Another way of locating it is at the far end of the first east side safety fence when traveling south from mile marker 49.5. (The last vertical post in the safety fence shows clear signs of damage as well).

The fissure runs parallel to a steep drop off to Glendale-Milford Road (S.R. 126) on the east side of the trail. As seen from the road looking up to the trail, there is clear evidence that the hillside has subsided, causing the crack above.

- Upcoming ODNR Projects. There are a couple of upcoming ODOT projects on bridges over the trail that will potentially effect users.

- Spring 2020-Fall 2021 SR 48 and US 22:

Trail will remain open during construction. However, occasional flagging operations may be necessary.

Temporary construction fence will be installed along construction boundaries to protect the park and users.

Signage will be installed to alert trail users of the construction activity.

- Spring 2023 for approximately 5 months US 42

The proposed project will require the construction of a protective shed with lighting over the Little Miami Scenic Trail to protect Trail users. The project will also require six short term closures for access to the bridge for demolition, erection of new beams, and protection during deck pouring to protect the Trail users.

Daytime closures during weekdays for demolition. Two closures lasting approximately 1 week each (5 days) and maybe as long as 3 months apart.

Daytime closures during weekdays for erection of bridge beams. Two closures lasting 2 days each and maybe as long as 3 months apart. It may be possible to complete this work at night.

Daytime closures during weekdays for pouring on the concrete bridge deck. Two closures lasting approximately 1 week each (5 days) at separate times

- Corwin Shelter: Mills -



CorwinShelter1.jpg



CorwinShelter2.jpg



CorwinShelter3.jpg

- Leveraging our Balance Sheet:
 - FLMSP \$8,500 for materials, e.g. steel roof, anchor bolts, etc.
 - Village of Corwin \$7,500 for materials if spent by 12/31/2019.

ODNR \$10,000 for labor to construct and necessary permits

ODNR will store the materials at Casear Creek until weather permits the project to begin.

Dick will research what permits are needed and will email the board for a board vote on the respective fees.

- Long-term.
 - The paving project (Morrow-south) is still out for bid. We will have to wait for bids to come in to see how far the \$200k will go.
 - We are actively seeking funding for the Foster's slip. I will continue to provide updates as we solidify plans.

4. Events/Outreach

- Counters. Ron Gorley. We have the Counter Reports from TriState Trails.



CounterReport_2016.pdf



CounterReport_2017.pdf



CounterReport_2018.xlsx

- Little Miami Conservancy. Becky Retzer has volunteered to “own” and manage this relationship.
- Connecting Active Communities (CACC) Coalition November 20. We have been asked to speak at this meeting. At this point Steve and Ron plan to attend.
- Question: Who should be the keeper of banners, credit card readers, GPS units, display tent(?), table, two chairs, History and Trail Guides, etc.
Dick will maintain electronic assets; Becky will maintain non-electronic assets.

5. Trail Safety

- **Intersections Safety.** Don Mills.
 - **Laddering:**

There are 49 intersections in our 50 miles.

16 intersections do not warrant markings because of little traffic conflict.

24 intersections have been marked in the last year.

7 intersections will be marked in the near future.

2 intersections have not received approval for marking from the governmental “owner”, e.g. Spring Valley. Dick Feldman and I will continue to work with Spring Valley in an attempt to improve safety in their Village.
 - **Road Signage:**

FLMSP has ordered the required vertical signage that will be installed by the owners

of each roadway over the next year. There are 15 roadways that warrant vertical signage. Five of them will be completed in the next month. The other 10 will be at the discretion of the “owner”.

- The posts and signs have been delivered to Warren County.
- As of today (10/16/2019) the \$2,200 of signage has been delivered to owners (County, Township and Village) and in most cases installed. So, this project as originally laid out is complete.
- **Lines of Sight:** There are 5-6 intersections where ODNr’s chainsaw crew can open up better visibility for bikers & motorists, i.e. Strout North East, Wilmington North West and South West, 350 North East and North West, Wards Corner South East.

Melissa Clark “The 4 intersections needing cut back for sight lines are already on our maintenance plan for fall.”

- **Corwin Ave.** Thanks to good information secured by A & A employee (Steven - project manager) about a tar and chip of Corwin Ave I am postponing the Corwin Ave laddering until I talk to The Mayor and find out what Corwin’s plans are for re-pave.
- **Trail Sentinel Program.** Don Hahn
 - Don Hahn reports that there are currently 15 Trail Sentinels who have volunteered.
 - Don has one unclaimed vest. Can order more depending on demand.
 - Trail Sentinel responsible for identifying 60’ crack at MM 49.5.
- **Fences.** Rich Easterly
 - All remaining “fence hardware” is now in FLMSp’s hands having been moved from ODNr to the Morrow cache.

6. Trail Condition

- **12’ Clearance Project.** Ron has organized a crew to create a 12’ clearance for EMS vehicles starting at Hedges Road working south to Morrow.
This project was completed at the time of the meeting and was very successful
- All, Wonderful news, Ernst Concrete has asked US Lawns to move out of their building at the cement plant by April Bruce talked to Jason and he said we are still good to keep our equipment in the building after US Lawns leaves.
- **Southern Tool Cache.** Bruce Cortright.
 - New tool cache location. Annual expense goes from \$960 to \$0.



- **Stabilizations.** ODNR.



- Trail erosions at I-71 and 4 to 5 places south of Fosters.
- **Bumps, Crack-filling.**
 - The last time we did crack-filling was some number of years ago. This is something that should be on our radar. .

7. Trail Drainage. Tom McCray



FLMSP Drainage
Issues 08Oct2019 Bc

8. Fundraising.

- ODNR.
Ron Gorley had a meeting with Phil Miller of ODNR today October 9. Ron will report on that meeting. FLMSP's two top priorities for community-based capital are fixing the drainage north of Oregonia and the drainage north of Grandin Rd.
- Grants. Becky Retzer.
- Pipe Safes.

- Since last meeting we had two additional Pipe Safes vandalized. Thanks to Bruce Cortright we have a plan to make repairs although Dick Feldmann recommends we only repair the pipe safe at Fosters and pass on those at St Rt 350.
- Install pipe safe in Spring Valley?
- Install pipe safe in South Lebanon?
- Counters. Ron Gorley. Wade Johnston of TriState Trails is following up on the suggestion at the last Board meeting to ask ODOT about potential funding for upgraded pedestrian/bicycle discriminating counters.

9. Volunteers.

- **Recognition.**
 - Ray Jacobson.
Ray is in Florida. FLMSF will present plaque in Spring when he returns.
- **Lookup My Volunteer Hours.** On the menu just below "Record My Hours".

10. Amenities.

- Summary



RestAndInformationCenters.xlsx

- Spring Valley kiosk and port-o-let. Dick Feldmann
 - ACTS owns Founders Park. George McGowan attended the last Spring Valley ACTS meeting and introduced the ideas I had given him previously.

ACTS is positively inclined to letting us put an information kiosk in Founders Park. ACTS is positively inclined to paying for an upgrade to the kiosk of three additional display cases for Spring Valley's use \$525.

Dick Feldmann's goal is to pour a 5'x5' concrete slab and build a 3-sided enclosure using prefab fencing from Home Depot for the portable restroom to mask its appearance and get it to stand upright, but Dick suspects that ACTS isn't willing to pay the \$750.

George is going to set up a meeting for the two of us I to meet with the ACTS leadership at Founders Park. So, we're seeing good progress, but more to come.

- Spring Valley ACTS has approved putting the kiosk at Founders Park.
- Spring Valley ACTS is all but approved adding three additional displays on the back side for their use. We just need to get them a price for the three additional panels \$175 each or \$525 for all three.
- They really liked the approach of their panels facing north and ours facing south. That sold it.
- Pipe safe at Founders Park is approved.

- They want to move the portable restroom (as do I) to get it away from a memorial tree.
- George is going to get me the contact information for Greene Foundation for asking for a grant for the restroom pad and enclosure.
- **Kiosk Locks.** Change locks on all kiosks to combination locks. According to Don Mills only Miami and Fosters locks can be changed.
New locks have been installed at Fosters, Miami & Corwin. The S. Lebanon kiosk will be revamped to combination locks.
- **Kiosk Takeaways.** With 7 information centers and 28 pamphlet holders (including Spring Valley) we will use a minimum of 5,000 Little Miami Tri-folds pamphlets next year. The content is well expressed and useful to our million plus Trail users. 4 pamphlets holders are the maximum number that each kiosk can accommodate and not look too crowded. Using 2 of the holders for Little Miami is justified from a supply/demand point of view. (See notes above re. no State funding available for the Little Miami Tri-fold maps)

The Ohio To Erie trifold is not as functional but does inform the Trail user as to the possibilities of bike travel within the State.

The FLMSF volunteer brochure is rarely taken and I'm not sure warrants taking up 25% of the holders. We do have business cards that tell interested parties how to volunteer.

The Miami Valley Bikeway Map (aka TriState Trails map) is very informative for people biking in SW Ohio and would be very popular with Trail users. Will they supply us with at least 3000 pamphlets? If yes, I think we should consider adding it to our information centers.

11. Invasive Control. Jim Mason

12. Reforestation. Rick Forrester

- **Pollinator Project.** Becky Retzer.

13. 2020 Projects Needing Ownership, Funding, Labor

- Don Mills
 - Improve railroad crossing at Loveland - worst bump on whole Trail - Dave Kennedy (administrator) is aware.
 - Mark street intersection on Broadway in Loveland - Dave Kennedy (administrator) is aware.
 - Install 3-season drinking fountain at S. Lebanon trailhead - Jerry Haddix (administrator) is aware.
 - Install 3-season drinking fountain at Milford trailhead - Lisa Evans (Council member) is aware.

- After installing Corwin shelter, improve parking area by adding 20 more spaces south of bathroom - have not raised issue yet with ODNr (Melissa) - am waiting until shelter is completed. (Melissa Clark/Kyle)
- Spray a bleach solution on moss that is on Trail in hopes of diminishing its presence - now dormant - will try next summer (Jim Mason). Don Hahn has already tested glyphosate, vinegar and WetandFoget with no success. I have read that baking soda kills moss but have not tested it.
- Where berm has grown over Trail, ask ODNr or FLMSp to use a wire brush on a Bobcat to push back - have not raised issue. (Melissa/Kyle or Bruce Cortright/Mike Dresch)
- Re-Paint the "STOP" signage on Trail at intersections. Next spring/summer (Bruce Cortright/Don Mills)
- Use cold patching to fill dips in trail surface—Don Hahn has marked those between Loveland and Morrow with understanding they would be filled this year.
- Scarify bumps under Don Hahn's leadership. (Don Hahn)
- Crack fill Track next spring/summer. (Don Mills)
- Develop a team under Beck's leadership to keep brochure holders at kiosks filled. (Becky Retzer)
- Complete Spring Valley kiosk - (Steve Murphy and Dick Feldmann)
- Mark street intersections in Spring Valley at Main and Bellbrook - (Dick Feldmann).
- Fix signpost at Main St., Morrow (Melissa/Kyle)
- Morrow information center - Becky working with Carol Whitacre and head of improvement committee. (Becky Retzer)
- Becky Retzer
 - Completion of Grant calendar, letters of inquiry, apply 2-3 grants
 - Pollinator project completion including signage.
 - Guided history rides.
 - Plan with Amanda, park naturalist, for park events.
 - Kiosks - provide updated materials. Implement plan to keep kiosk team supplied with brochures and hotline cards. Recruit team member for Corwin kiosk.

14. Miscellaneous Projects Needing Capital and/or Labor

- **Benches.**
 - Liz Lamar and Ron Gorley surveyed every existing bench on the trail, complete with location, condition and photograph. First priority is to install benches where none exist. (We have three potential donors right now). Second priority is to repair or replace existing benches. We'll work on a report for the board after I return to town in a couple of weeks.
- **Port-o-let Enclosures.**



- a picture of Terrace Park's enclosure.
- Our current specifications: 3-sided, no roof, no door, 6' tall, 6" clearance under walls.
- Locations: Miamiville, Oregonia, Spring Valley.
- One potential solution:
<https://www.homedepot.com/p/Outdoor-Essentials-6-ft-x-6-ft-Pressure-Treated-Cedar-Tone-Moulded-Wood-Fence-Panel-Kit-162523/204146019>

[Panel-Kit-162523/204146019](https://www.homedepot.com/p/Outdoor-Essentials-6-ft-x-6-ft-Pressure-Treated-Cedar-Tone-Moulded-Wood-Fence-Panel-Kit-162523/204146019)

- **Morrow Kiosk**
 - A project to retrofit the existing 3-sided structure in Morrow into a kiosk is a potential future project.
 - There is currently no funding available.
- **South Lebanon Kiosk**
 - The repairs to this kiosk to bring it up to standard will be completed by 10/17.
- **Lebanon Spur Kiosk**
 - Replace glass in display cases \$75. –
This project is completed
- **Spring Valley Kiosk**
 - Negotiations with Spring Valley's ACTS who own Founders Park.
 - We have \$2,100 for this kiosk --- the excess funding from the Simeon Copple Memorial fundraising.
 - Since there is an existing concrete pad the cost for this kiosk will be \$5,000 versus the standard cost of \$5,500. Therefore, we need additional funding of \$2,900.



SpringValleyKioskA
ndRestStation-2019

- The quote for a port-o-let concrete pad and 3-wall enclosure is \$750.
- **State Route 350 Kiosk**
 - There is currently no funding available.

Motion by Bruce to adjourn meeting. Approved

15. Meeting Schedule.

February 12, 2020
March 11, 2019

Loveland City Hall, 120 W Loveland Ave, Loveland, OH 45140
Wayne Township Administration Building, 6050 N Clarksville Road, Waynesville, OH 45068