

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park  
ZOOM Online General Board Meeting 02-10-2021  
Meeting Minutes**

**Call to Order:** Steve Murphy

**Introduction of Members and Guests:** Steve Murphy

**Board Members Present:** Steve Murphy, Ron Gorley, Dick Feldmann, Becky Retzer, Larry Bloomfield, Bruce Cortright, Rick Forrester

**Guests:** Melissa Clark (ODNR)

**Approval of Minutes from 2021-01-13:** Becky Retzer

Becky motioned the January 13, 2021 minutes be approved. Dick seconded. Approved

**Treasurer's Report:** Dick Feldmann (5 min)

| <b>Cash on Hand:</b>             | <b>12/31/2020</b> | <b>1/31/2021</b> | <b>Change +/-</b> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Unrestricted                     | <b>\$55,293</b>   | <b>\$52,678</b>  | (2,615)           |
| Restricted                       | <b>11,898</b>     | <b>9,824</b>     | (2,074)           |
| Safety                           | 2,811             | 737              |                   |
| Memorial bench & Kiosk           | 9,087             | 9,087            |                   |
| Reserved                         | <b>3,105</b>      | <b>2,105</b>     | (1,000)           |
| Pollinator garden program        | 1,350             | 1,350            |                   |
| Corwin Shelter                   | 755               | 755              |                   |
| Spring Valley crosswalks & signs | 1,000             |                  |                   |
| Operating Account                | <b>27,868</b>     | <b>22,173</b>    | (5,695)           |
| Savings Account                  | <b>42,373</b>     | <b>42,379</b>    | +6                |
| Receivables                      | 55                | 55               |                   |
| <b>Total</b>                     | <b>\$70,296</b>   | <b>\$64,607</b>  | <b>(5,689)</b>    |

**Treasurer Narrative:** Dick Feldmann

- Financial Statements sent to board on February 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Expenses requiring board motion.
  - o Our mail drop box – UPS Store \$300  
**Dick made a motion that we pay another year at \$300. Ron seconded. All approved.**
  - o Tax return preparation, Ferman & Co., LLC \$900  
**Dick motioned that FLMSP pay Ferman & Co., which will include a full 990 and our state registration. Ron seconded. Approved.**

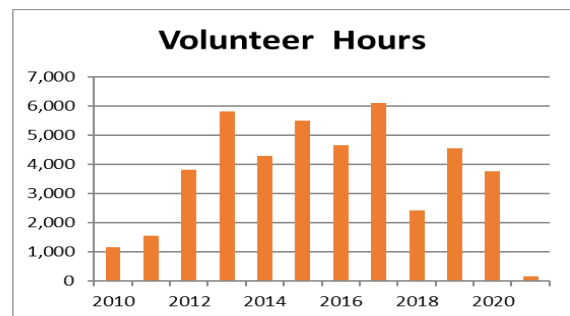
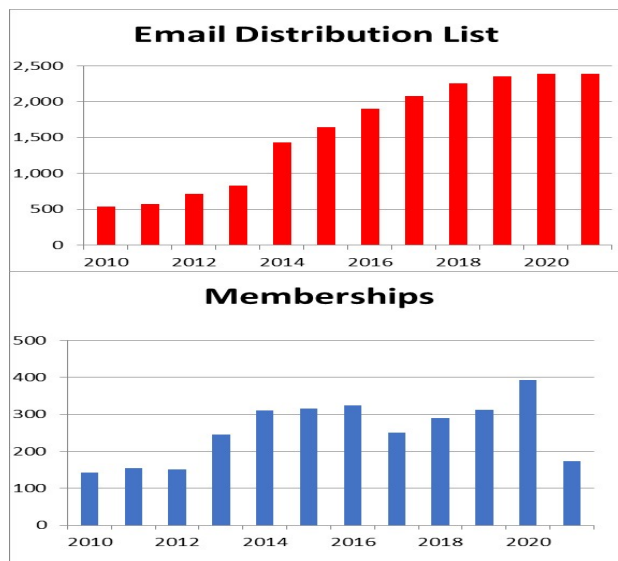
- Major Income items:
  - Bob Taft donation, \$1,000
  - Definitive Logic Corporation, \$800
  - Earthshare, \$681
- Major Expense items approved and paid:
  - Atlantic Casualty, Liability Insurance, \$2,826
  - Bruce Cortright, Rt 126 blinking stop signs \$2,075
  - Metafile, Results Plus 1-year license \$973
  - Navigate Tomorrow, Web site hosting \$385
  - Constant Contact, 6 month renewal \$460
  - Ohio BMV, Trailer registration \$41
- IRS changes:
  - The standard rate for business mileage annually. For 2021, the business rate for mileage is \$0.56 / mile.

For anyone hauling equipment or supplies, FLMSP will pay a premium of \$0.10 for a maximum of \$0.66 / mile.

As always, these are maximums. We expect the volunteer to identify the mileage rate at which they wish to be reimbursed by FLMSP.

### **Metrics: Steve Murphy (5 min)**

|                          | <u>01-13-2021</u> | <u>02-10-2021</u> | <u>+/-</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Email Distribution List: | 2,390             | 2,387             | (3)        |
| Memberships:             | 395               | 254               |            |
| Volunteer Hours:         |                   | 89                | +89        |
| Facebook "Followers":    | 1,682             | 1,694             | +12        |
| Facebook "Likes":        |                   | 1,586             | +1,586     |
| Twitter "Followers":     | 57                | 57                | +0         |
| Twitter "Likes":         |                   |                   |            |



### **STRATEGIC PLAN.**

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

## 2021 PLANNING

- Annual Meeting.
- When and where?
- Currently 4 Board members are up for election this year 2021, i.e. President, Vice President, Treasurer, and one Member at Large.
  - We may want to correct the situation where we have 3 offices up for reelection the same year.
- Officer recommendations. Dick Feldmann, Bruce Cortright, and Steve Murphy are willing to run again. Ron Gorley has decided not to stand for reelection.. □ Vice President recommendation?

### Current Board members:

|                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| □ Steve Murphy, President           | 2-year term 2019-2021 |
| □ Vice President                    | 2-year term 2019-2021 |
| □ Dick Feldmann, Treasurer          | 2-year term 2019-2021 |
| □ Becky Retzer, Secretary           | 2-year term 2020-2022 |
| □ Bruce Cortright, Member at Large  | 2-year term 2019-2021 |
| □ Rick Forrester, Member at Large   | 2-year term 2020-2022 |
| □ Larry Bloomfield, Member at Large | 2-year term 2020-2022 |

- Remote Meetings
- Currently FLMSP uses ZOOM to support remote meetings; ODNr uses Microsoft TEAMS. In fact, no employee of ODNr is permitted to participate in a ZOOM meeting. Because of relationship between FLMSP and ODNr, FLMSP will be changing to Microsoft TEAMS as soon as possible and practical, e.g. March 10.
- 2021 Projects The following is a list of projects mapped onto the Strategic Plan:

### Strategic Plan

#### 1. Safety

- Intersections
- Ladders
- Sight lines
- “Dangerous intersection” painted on pavement for select intersections
- Speed Limit painted on pavement
- Vertical signage
- Flashing STOP signs St Rte 126
- Model intersection St Rte 126
- Berm encroachment
- Pavement markings, e.g. center lines only at intersections.
- Fences

- Trail Sentinels. Don Hahn. Nothing new to report. Current count is 13
  - Would like to find someone to lead the program.
  - No budget item for 2021 expected.
- Trail Etiquette. Larry Bloomfield.
  - All trail users (walkers, runners, skaters, cyclists) must use the right side of the trail. The only time a trail user should be on the left is while passing.
  - Groups of 4 or more cyclists (other than families with small children) should ride single file and leave a space between riders to allow faster cyclists to pass. Pacelines (groups of roadies riding fast in a tight formation) are discouraged.
- Speed limits: Recommend posting slower speed limits on crowded sections of trail. Recommended speed limits? Wherever we put/paint speed limit signage we should decide what the speed limits should be. I've seen a sign at 20 mph sign south of Fosters. I like 12 (a reduced speed) mph in congested areas. Larry Bloomfield.
  - **Per Melissa State Park guidelines (she will do some research regarding different speed limits) the question was presented about marking some of the intersections as dangerous 50 ft before the stop ahead. Dick will research with A&A re estimates for painting the signs on the trail.**

Speed Limit Sign Locations. Ron Gorley/Melissa Clark

- eBikes. Larry Bloomfield

## 2. Condition & Drainage

- Trail Closure. Would you begin to post on our website as well as in the Trail Mail that the trail will be shut down at the Foster's trailhead during the ODOT work on the bridge at 22/3 for approximately 2 months. This was a hard decision for ODNR to make but because of the traffic that will be directed onto old Highway 3c. They took into consideration trail users as well as those being rerouted onto old Highway 3C. The work is scheduled to begin in June but we will be sure to post actual start dates with anticipated closer times as soon as they are available. There will also be shorter closings coming soon as ODNR replaces/repairs 3 of the bridges on the trail.
  - Warren County & ODOT will be implementing awareness campaigns regarding the work. A pre-construction meeting will be held.
- Storage Caches.
  - S. Lebanon/Morrow. Rich Easterly
  - Fosters Cache
    - Rick Forrester submitted a detailed inventory of the Foster's Cache.
    - **Dick was appreciative and will work on getting inventories from the other locations.**
  - Southern Cache. Bruce Cortright.
    - Shipping Container \$2000  
**Bruce motioned we purchase a used shipping container up to \$2,000 to cover the cost of the container & delivery. Dick seconded. All approved.**

- Wood Chipper Rental \$200

Don Berling has been doing a great job of clearing the honeysuckle. There is a large pile that needs to be chipped.

**Bruce motioned to rent a wood chipper for up to \$200. Rick seconded. Approved.**

- Bump Grinding. Don Hahn. Bumps on the entire 50 miles of trail were ground in October 2020 as I reported in a memo to the board, presentation at annual meeting and in TrailMail. Recommendations were listed in my memo. No action is needed in 2021.
- Crack Filling.
- Erosion.
- Culverts.
- Trail Tools.
- Trail Tool Caches.

### 3. Volunteer Management. Becky Retzer, Dick Feldman

- Volunteer recruitment, onboarding, hours, recognition.
- Signup Genius, Volgistics
- New volunteer form – yearly cycle.

### 4. Amenities/Convenience

- Trash Cans. Fritz Buschman. My wife, Linda, and I help maintain the trail north and south from downtown Loveland. We recently talked about that issue last week. From my experience in picking up poop bags and from experience with our dog, the dogs are so excited at the start of the walk that they do their business at the beginning of the walk. Once you get past the poop bag dispensers, there are no trash cans. The cans are behind you. Thus, the bags end up in the woods and in the grass. If you want to move the trash cans farther down the trail a small distance, I will commit to checking them about every 10 days or so.
- Benches. Ron Gorley
- Kiosks.
- Spring Valley. Dick Feldmann
- Morrow.
- Corwin shelter. Dick Feldmann/ Tom McCray Thrash can – check with Jane/Dick will check with lumber yard
- Spring Valley kiosk. Dick Feldmann
- Bike racks. Ron Gorley

| Location        | Bike Racks |
|-----------------|------------|
| Milford         | 2          |
| Miamiville      | 1          |
| Loveland, south | 2          |

|                        |                                        |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Loveland, Nisbett Park | 4                                      |
| Fosters                | 2                                      |
| Grandin                | None                                   |
| South Lebanon          | 2                                      |
| Morrow                 | None at Phegley Park<br>1 at Miranda's |
| Oregonia               | 1                                      |
| Corwin                 | 2                                      |
| Spring Valley          | None                                   |

I believe Morrow would be first priority. Phegley Park is where the permanent toilet is, where we place our PortaPotty and where the shelter is with the picnic tables. There are timbers there to tie up horses, but no bike racks. Seems like something we would coordinate with the Morrow Community group (along with getting the kiosk set up). The bike rack at Miranda's is too far away to be of use at the park.

I'm torn between Grandin and Spring Valley. Advantage to Grandin because trail volume is 80% higher than at Spring Valley. Advantage to Spring Valley since the Grandin parking lot will be relocated after the new bridge is constructed and the rack would probably need to move

Melissa recently ordered a recycle rack from U-Line and suggested we look at their catalog/website.

- Bicycle repair stations

#### 5. Beauty

- Butterfly/Pollinator Garden. Becky Retzer.
- Reforestation. Rick Forrester.  
**Rick made a motion to purchase trees and shrubs for the trail up to \$350. Dick seconded. Approved.**
- Invasive control. Jim Mason. Tree of Heaven (Alanthus)

#### 6. FLMSF Administration.

- Funding, e.g. donations, memberships, grants
- Events, e.g. Don Hahn helmet day
- Web site. Rod Martin.
- Upgrade web site "core".
- On volunteer signup on web site, ALL the information entered by the volunteer candidate should be in the initial email to the Volunteer Coordinator (John Beidermann).
- Relationships, e.g. Loveland, Cartridge Brewing, etc.

- Cartridge Brewing. Becky and Steve had a ZOOM meeting with Anthony Cook, co-founder.
- It is Becky's and Steve's recommendation that there is insufficient revenue potential to warrant the effort required.
- Counters. Ron Gorley Tri-State Trails/Wade – **Ron will try to contact.**
- Microsoft TEAMS. Targeting March 10 Board meeting.

## 7. Outreach.

- Helmet event. Don Hahn. I believe this is meant to be a repeat of the June 2020 helmet giveaway. Don proposed this event be repeated in June or July, possibly as early as May which is bicycle safety. Don would like to find a leader for this event as none of last year's volunteers were willing to lead this year. Don will be asking the board to authorize an expenditure of something like \$300 to buy helmets to give away in case Children's Hospital does not contribute like they did last year and in case Ohio Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics does not grant us any helmets and to be sure we have at least 100 helmets. Last year 58 helmets were given away in a little over an hour.

**Look for a volunteer to lead event the event. The Board feels more monies should be allocated for helmets to ensure we have enough to pass out.**

## 8. ODNR.

- Marathon. What are the rules and regulations?
  - No social activities being approved by ODNR through May 31<sup>st</sup> of 2021.
- Capital plan – we are not bringing in any new community-based capital
- Corwin Shelter - Spring
- Bridges and Bridge Surfaces
- Rte 22/3
- Beech St/Fosters/Oregonia
- O'Bannon – *most likely 1<sup>st</sup> on the list of priorities*
- Camp Dennison butterfly garden on donated property.
- The other bridges and Morrow berm are all doable this year – mobilize by the end of April of bridges – 1 week for each bridge. Start and Beech/Fosters/Oregonia - plan to be complete by May 15<sup>th</sup>. The big hold up is treated lumber!

## Meeting Schedule.

Future General Board Meetings will be online using ZOOM until the current COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed. The next General Board Meeting will be Wednesday March 10 at 6:30 using TEAMS.

The Annual Meeting will be postponed until the current CVD-19 restrictions are relaxed. Tentative is November.