

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park
General Board Meeting 4/10/2024
MS Teams
Meeting Agenda & Presentation-**Minutes****

Minutes

Motions

Actions

AGENDA / STRATEGIC PLAN.

1. Introductions
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Treasurer's Report
4. ODNR Report
5. FLMSP Administrative Business
6. Beauty
7. Volunteer Management
8. Amenities/Convenience
9. Outreach
10. Trail Condition & Drainage
11. Safety
12. Future General Board Meetings

Call to Order: Dick Feldmann

Introduction of Board:

Dick Feldmann	President
Ron Gorley	Vice President
Becky Retzer	Treasurer
Bill Brown	Secretary
Bruce Cortwright	Member at Large
Larry Bloomfield	Member at Large
Rick Forrester	Member at Large
John Telintelo	Member at Large

Introduction of Members and Guests:

Casey Marcum	ODNR
Tiffany DeChant-Hunt	ODNR

Approval of Minutes: Bill Brown

- April Board Meeting, distributed May 4th.
- Annual Meeting, distributed May 6th from Becky.

MOTION: Bill made a motion to approve May 4th meeting minutes.

Bruce seconded

Motion Approved

MOTION: Becky made a motion to approve May 6th FLMSP Annual Meeting minutes.

Bruce seconded

Motion Approved

Treasurer's Report: Becky Retzer

FLMSP CASH ON HAND	03/31/24	04/30/24	
Unrestricted	181,253	173,997	-7,256
Restricted	24,026	22,000	-2,026
Memorial Benches	4,026	2,000	-2,026
Pavement Fund	10,000	10,000	0
Grandin Rest & Info Station	10,000	10,000	0
Reserved	259	259	0
Pollinator Garden	259	259	0
Savings Account	42,568	42,575	7
CD(s)	132,674	133,267	593
Receivables	64	0	-64
Total	205,538	196,256	-9,282

P&L Comparison	YTD 4/2023	YTD 4/2024
Revenue	16,019	18,712
Expenses	19,454	24,870
Net Operating Revenue	-3,435	-6,158

Treasurer Narrative, Becky Retzer

- Financials emailed to Board on 05/06/2024
- Working on new chart of accounts – emailed to Board 05/06/24
- Fermann & Co will work on our tax filing this month (May)
 - o All Board members need to update their hours for 2023 (if not already done so in VicNet)
- D&O Insurance due May – payment sent
- **Protolet Expense Itemization:**
- **Ron asked if we needed to itemize each portolet location.**
- **Becky sends one check to Rumpke, but Rumpke sends out an invoice for each one with a unique account number. Therefore, it's easier to pay them individually.**

ODNR, Casey Marcum, Tiffany DeChant-Hunt

Park Management

- Meeting with management 4/17/2024. Ron Gorley, Dick Feldmann, Malissa Clark, Tiffany DeChant-Hunt, Clint Tellep.
 - o Ron and Dick presented status of some key FLMSP projects.
 - o Good discussion about LMSP issues
 - o Expect new trail intrusions from:

- Miami Township sidewalk project
- Deerfield Township project
- o O'Bannon Creek bridge landscaping needs and ribbon cutting.
- o **Bridge is open! May 22nd will be the official ribbon cutting ceremony from 11:30 am -12:30 pm.**
- o **John cleaned the display case at O'Bannon Creek.**
- o Information kiosk signs are falling down inside display cases. (Becky and Dick are working)
- o Naturalists available to LMSP
 - Caden, Cowan Lake
 - Erin, Caesar Creek
 - Both are busy with management push to engage more with park patrons and Ohio citizens.
- o ODNR Outreach
 - Casey is able to post to park Facebook page.
 - Changes to web site are submitted to Columbus.
- o Send volunteer agreements directly to Tiffany.
- o Discussion of new park signs. Clint provided sheet from ODNR sign manual. Tiffany will work on the park rule signs and get input from ODNR Law Enforcement.

Staffing

- Casey
- Greg
- Possibly one other

O'Bannon bridge (Loveland MM 41.5)

- New bridge is open as of May 3.
- Opening ceremony May 22nd. Details?
- **Scheduled for 11:30 am-12:30 pm. Speakers from ODNR, Ohio State Park and Loveland to attend. Food will be available for attendees.**

<https://www.chronolog.io/site/FLM101>

Grandin Road Amenities.

- Have approval to replace the sign tree at Grandin.

Todd Fork bridge (Morrow MM 28.2)

- Bridge maintenance and painting.
- Detour in place.
- Scheduled to reopen in May (according to Morrow village manager.)
- **This is the most up to date information.**
- **It may close again later. They are asking for a grant to install lights on the bridge.**

Caesar Creek / Middletown Rd. bridge (Oregonia MM 16.5)

- Contract for bridge reclamation required re-awarded.
- Work will start in June.
- Part of RFP is that we will reclaim the boards for future fence repair.

- Steel plates are holding up well.

Trail slip at I-71 Jeremiah Morrow Bridge (MM 22.1)

- No change.
- Park staff and ODNR Engineers continuing discussions a long-term solution to correct the issue.
- Very likely trail will have to close during construction. Trying to resolve a requirement for a detour during the work where no appropriate detour is available.
- **Tiffany met with ODNR and this project was discussed. Something will happen on this project.**

Trail slip at Glendale-Milford Rd (MM 50)

- Investigating taking on leveling the blacktop as a joint park staff and FLMSF volunteer project.

Trail slip at Gladly Run (MM 4.5)

- Slip is within 2 inches of pavement.
- Gladly Run is covered by scenic rivers restrictions.

FLMSF ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Annual Meeting, Dick Feldmann

- Occurred Sunday, April 28 at 4:30 at Waldschmidt Homestead
- 40 attendees
- Successful event
- **Thanks to board for making the event a success**

Board Succession, Dick Feldmann

- **Welcome Rick Forrester and John Telintelo to the board.**

Trail usage counters, Ron Gorley, Dick Feldmann

- Second counter received, installed and working.
- **Second counter was not damaged by the tornado.**

Google voice account, Dick Feldmann

- Tony Blizniak reports...
- **Google voice number 513-212-6959 created for use by the board members.**
- Associated with flmsfOHConference@gmail.com.
- **Does anyone know anything about this account?**
- **No one knows anything about this account. Dick will have it discontinued.**

BEAUTY

Greenhouse

- Still have MOU with Friends Caring for Cowan Lake State Park
- Met with Friends of Caesar Creek Campground, Inc. 4/23

- o Ed and Darlene Nelson, Rick Forrester, Dick Feldmann
- o They are eager to support.
- o They have nice site at campground maintenance building.
- o Their members are only onsite April through October.
- Met with Nature Center Association of Caesar Creek 4/26
 - o Rick Hoffman, President, Tiffany DeChant-Hunt, Rick Forrester, Dick Feldmann, Ed and Darlene Nelson
 - o Nature Center organization busy with major landscape improvement projects.
 - o Nature Center well shaded with trees. No good location.
- Met with Greenfield Farms
 - o Becky Retzer, Bill Newton
 - o They have area on their property near center of LMSP that could be made available.

Pollinator Gardens, Becky Retzer, Rick Forrester

- MM 19.9 Oregonia Pollinator Prairie
- MM 39.1 under power lines doing well
- New area at MM 38.5.

S Lebanon Rain Garden, Becky Retzer,

- Work will start in late August and plants will go in in the fall.

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

Proposed 2024 Volunteer Events, Dick Feldmann

- Volunteer Cookout scheduled for June 1st at Phegley Park, Morrow
 - o Pat Klein is organizer.
 - o Volunteers will receive invites from Constant Contact next week.
- Fall Picnic at Morgan Campgrounds for October.
 - o Need someone to organize.
 - o **Becky talked to people, but no one has yet volunteered to organize this event.**
- Winter Volunteer gift
 - o LaRosa's gift certificates worked well last year.

AMENITIES/CONVENIENCE

Corwin Parking, Dick Feldmann

- Steve Williamson of Red Barn in Corwin has submitted a proposal to ODNR/FLMSP to increase the parking in Corwin by adding gravel parking area south of the restroom building. They will supply the labor if we can provide \$8,420 for material.
- **There are three trees in the area and there is a concern this will compact the soil and hurt the trees. Casey is familiar with the area and believes the trees will not be affected. It becomes a mud hole currently during rains and she has put dirt there, but**

grass won't grow. She thinks the parking expansion is a good idea. The work is not going far enough to impact the trees.

- The project is supported by the community in the area.

MOTION: Dick made a motion to provide \$10,000 for material for adding gravel parking area at Corwin Trailhead. Labor to be provided by Red Barn.

Bruce seconded

Motion approved

Memorial Benches, Ron Gorley

- Price for remaining bench locations.
- 3-6 bench locations left.
- At a donation of \$2,000, we lose money on each bench installation.
- Tiffany said it was an honor for donors to have a memorial bench placed in the park and the donations should cover the complete cost.
- \$3,000 per bench would cover the current cost for the remaining 3-6 locations.

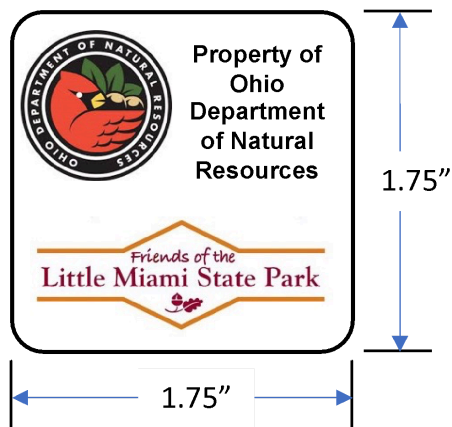
MOTION: Dick made a motion to charge \$3,000 for future memorial benches.

Rick seconded

Motion approved

Park Entry Signs, Dick Feldmann

- Proposing new signage at all entry points. Trail has
 - o 33 Major Intersections – Require full sign tree in each direction.
 - o 11 Minor Intersections – Requires just the Park sign in each direction
 - o 2 Terminations – Already has a large park sign but needs the trail and rules signs only in one direction.
- Signs needed
 - o 90 New LMSP park signs
 - o 80 Route signs
 - o 28 Street signs to replace missing street signs
 - o 80 New Rules Signs
- Phase 1. Replace State Park signs
 - o 90 signs have been received from A&A Safety and have started going up.
- Phase 2. Route signs and street signs
 - o Lumber for additional sign trees approved by board at last meeting. Met with Rich Easterly and Casey Marcum on Tuesday May 7th to discuss locations.
 - o Replacement street name signs approved by board at last meeting and order placed with A&A Safety. Ready for pickup.
 - o New Route signs: e-mail motion on 4/23/2024 to the board to purchase 75 route signs for \$2,250 seconded by Larry Bloomfield and approved board. Order placed with A&A Safety.
- Phase 3. New rule signs being worked by Tiffany with consult with ODNR Law Enforcement.
- Security Label to be added to back of sign. 500 for \$220 at FastSigns.
- Casey says the security screws, along with the security labels, will help discourage theft.



King Ave/Grandin Rd/Peters Cartridge factory (MM 35.3)

- Rick Canavan, project manager.
- Projects on hold by ODNR.
 - o Permission given to replace the sign tree.
- Future Amenities
 - o Sign Tree
 - o Information Kiosk
 - o Picnic Shelter
 - o Benches
 - o Memorial to Steve

OUTREACH

Facebook, Janet Slater

- Janet reports that we have 3,004 followers on our Facebook site. Kudos to Brian Sullivan who is our Facebook manager.

Other Outreach, Dick Feldmann

- Miami Valley Bike to Work day Friday May 17th. Dick planning to attend.
- Heritage at Miami Bluffs Health and Wellness Fair 4/27/2024. Dick and Ken Speicher supported. Met with quite a few residences.
- Greene County Cycling Classic August 22-24, 2024.

TRAIL CONDITION & DRAINAGE

Funding for pavement replacement, Ron Gorley

- Project funding request for \$296,500 was submitted to Warren County Chamber Alliance who submitted to Ohio legislature as 2nd priority on their list.
- Expect Senate to complete and pass capital budget in July 2024.

Todd Fork bridge (Morrow MM 28.2)

- See above

Route 42 Bridge over trail at Spring Valley (MM 7.0)

- Bridge Replacement began 15 February.
- Managed by ODOT District 8.

- <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/projects/projects/102746>
- “The interim completion for the project is November 2024, and the final completion is June 2025.”

Route 73 Bridge over trail at Corwin (MM 14.5)

- Bridge Replacement began 4 March.
- Managed by ODOT District 8.
- <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/about-us/news/district-8/warren+county+bridge+rehab+project+set+to+begin+on+s.r.+73+02+14+24>
- “The Little Miami Scenic Trail, however, will remain open to bicyclists and pedestrians.”
- “The project is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2024.”

O'Bannon Creek bridge (Loveland MM 41.5)

- See above.

Caesar Creek bridge at Middletown Rd. (Oregonia MM 16.5)

- See above.

Trail slip at I-71 Jeremiah Morrow Bridge (MM 22.1)

- See above.

Trail slip at Glendale-Milford Rd (MM 50)

- See above.

Trail slip at Gladys Run (MM 4.5)

- See above.

Future, Dick Feldmann

- Foster Old 3C Highway.
- Sewer Project, South Lebanon

Other Business:

- Rick asked Casey if logs need to be cut up into firewood size when clearing tornado damage. Casey said leaving them in larger log size is OK since they will use the loader to move them later.
- Bruce asked to discuss purchasing a mini-excavator for use clearing out culverts.
- Chinese made excavators are available for \$6,800 on eBay.
- This would give Casey and her team an excavator all year vs. just when one is available to her.
- Another option is adding an excavator to the back of our existing Kubota tractor. Bruce would have to check if our Kubota is large enough to handle an excavator.
- Topic will be researched and discussed further.

FUTURE GENERAL BOARD MEETINGS

June General Board Meeting, Wednesday, June 12th on MS Teams.

MOTION: Dick made a motion to adjourn

Bill seconded

Meeting adjourned