



RAILS TO TRAILS OF THE WITHLACOOCHIE, INC.

The Citizen Support Organization of the Withlacoochee State Trail Membership Meeting

Minutes:

Meeting information

April 19, 2018

5:30 p.m.

The Lakes Region Library

Guest Speaker:

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by President Sherry Bechtel and opened with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting began with presentation of the annual awards.

- The Gerald Clark Memorial Award
 - ☞ Presented to each member of the Wednesday Work Crew, who each received a small plaque with their name on it.
 - σ Don Zutaut
 - Don also received the large plaque with the Wednesday Work Crew engravement because he is the team leader/coordinator
 - σ Al Cairns
 - σ Dave Sullivan
 - σ Harris Floyd
 - σ Jeff Hyde
 - σ Jim McLean
 - σ John Shire
 - σ John Stahl
 - σ Ken Kraut
 - σ Rich Roussel
 - ☞ For the work they do every week, but with special recognition of the extensive work that was done to clean up after Hurricane Irma – a total of 640 hours dedicated to that alone
 - σ The state did most of the cutting and moving from the paved part of the trail, but piled it on the sides
 - σ The WWC pushed the debris back from the sides for safety and to give riders a place to swerve off the trail if needed.
 - σ Continued to cut back trees that fell in the subsequent weeks
- The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Don Eastman, who was unable to attend the meeting.



RTW CSO MEMBERS MEETING

Treasurer's Report: Lyn Floyd

- Total in the account is \$90,267.29
 - ☞ A bit more than \$29K is in the investment accounts
 - ☞ Still have >\$53K in the bank
 - σ Monies have been earmarked for projects to be discussed later in the meeting
 - ☞ March (make up) ride brought in \$31,017.06

Work Crew Update: Don Zutaut

- Finished the pulling of the last of the gate posts
 - ☞ Two more intersections need to have the posts transported out
- Next up will be trimming, cleaning
 - ☞ From high winds, leftover from Irma
- We were recently told the bridge by Ridge Manor is now the responsibility of the RTW
 - ☞ FL DOT has indicated it belongs to the Trail
 - ☞ Starting to rust out; will need refurbishing soon
 - ☞ Gratings on the ends are starting to rot out

Trail Update: Dianne Drye

- Vandalism on April 15
- Likely done by juveniles
- Sheriff's office said there is unlikely they can do anything
- Gearing up to start working on the ADA
- May 9th through May 16th AmeriCorps will be in helping on to the concrete that's already out on the trail
- Bathrooms are being repainted
- (Chris Raby) Park and Trail inspected by Chris Raby's boss, Assistant Bureau Chief for District 2, Brian Fugate.
 - ☞ Everything looks good
 - ☞ Really liked the mural
 - ☞ Will also start on some ADA pads
 - σ Six will go in the weekend of April 21
 - σ Because they are at the end of the fiscal year, benches will be purchased with remaining funds
 - σ Plan is for an ADA accessible bench every 2 miles; if it falls at a shelter, the shelter will be made ADA compliant

Merchandise Update: Al Cairns

- Special jersey for the 200th anniversary of the bike was designed
 - ☞ Sold out
 - ☞ New ones reordered due to requests
 - ☞ Reintroducing the purple and green jersey
 - ☞ \$4600 raised with merchandise at the last ride
 - σ Not a bad amount, considering there were 200 fewer riders than we typically get



RTW CSO MEMBERS MEETING

Media/Publicity Update: Heather Nagy

- Two new people helping with the Facebook page
 - ☞ Natalie from Dade City
 - ☞ Gabrielle Harrison from Floral City
- About 2800 followers now

President's Updates: Sherry Bechtel

- Items that need a Membership vote:
 - ☞ Because we have a good balance built up, we would like to put \$20,000 for more patching and repair of the trail, done in two increments of \$10,000
 - σ Board passed this item
 - Motion passed unanimously with the members in attendance
 - ☞ Elections
 - σ Rich Roussel, Vice President
 - Motion passed unanimously with the members in attendance
 - σ Lyn Floyd, Treasurer
 - Motion passed unanimously with the members in attendance
 - ☞ At the old parking lot at (unintelligible), half of the trail is covered with a gate post, and it seems dangerous
 - σ Chris Raby addressed this. The State will be putting up a fence, leaving the correct width for the trail.

Respectfully Submitted

Nancy N. Keefer
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