

Friends of the Lake Vermilion Trail
Wednesday, August 12, 2020
Electronic meeting

Meeting called to order at 3:00 pm by Vice-chair Carol Booth.

Members present: Vice-chair Carol Booth, Treasurer Caroline Owens, Secretary Steve Lotz, Tim Johnson (left at 3:27), & Char Conger (lost at approximately 3:15, connection problem).

Minutes for the July 8, 2020 meeting having been distributed previously, motion by Carol, second by Caroline, to approve the minutes, five ayes, motion carried.

It was noted that Sue Wolfe, an active member of the steering committee and designer of the Trail logo, had passed away earlier this year.

Next steps – the bank account is set up. Caroline Owens reported that a State ID number was not needed at this time. Carol Booth asked about the organization address. For the various filings and the account Caroline's address has been used and it was decided that would be adequate for the time being. Carol and Char Conger raised the question of web links to donate to the Friends. At present on the Trail website there is a donate button through PayPal tied to the JPB. Caroline will look into the process of setting up a similar button or buttons for the Friends. Carol provided a draft announcement of the formalization of the Friends group status for local press and social media, which was accepted.

Insurance – Tim Johnson provided quotes for basic coverage with three different limits, \$600,000, \$1 million, and \$2 million. Pricing for each limit was the same at \$475 annually. The consensus was that coverage was important and would be pursued once funds were available.

Needs assessment – Carol had spoken with Brad Deckers of MN DNR Trails. He indicated that the need had already been recognized by the "Regional Designation" that the Trail received and no additional needs assessment was needed.

EAW/preliminary engineering work - Sarah Ciochetto of JPJ has provided Carol a Lake Vermilion Trail Engineering Proposal for the Y intersection to Tower segment covering concept layout and alignment and environmental review for roughly \$9,000. Using the JPJ project estimate, Carol provided draft applications to Lake Country Power Operation Roundup and to the Northern St. Louis County Trails Task Force of the Iron Range Tourism Bureau. The consensus was that this would also be good project fit for crowd-source funding.

Natural Harvest Food Co-op's Change within Reach Program – Carol provided a cover letter and application for this roundup program for 2021, motion by Carol, second by Caroline, to make application, three ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Carol reported that Bill Parker is studying membership tracking systems.

Friends/JPB formal agreement – Carol reported that the Club Mesabi/Mesabi Trail agreement was prompted by the Mesabi wheel pass. She will be providing additional information.

Google Drive for records, maps, and more – no new information.

Next meeting is set for September 9 at 3:00 pm and will be conducted electronically.
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 pm.

Steven Lotz, secretary