

Approved

Pinellas Trails, Inc.

Annual Meeting Minutes – August 3, 2016

Meeting was called to order at approximately 6:15 P.M by Jan Hirschfield.

Meeting attendees included:

Scott Daniels, Richard Valentine, Jan Hirschfield, Chip Freeman, Casey Morse, Robert Kirkpatrick Dan Behrle.

Secretary's Report – Richard Valentine

The minutes of the February meeting were read and approved as amended.

Note: Casey Morse mentioned that users of the See/Clic/Fix app need to stay on the EXACT spot being reported before clicking the app and sending the report, otherwise the GPS will not show the proper location.

Treasurer's Report – Chip Freeman

Total donations of over \$7,000 which includes \$5,750 from NW Collision for Trail amenities, \$1,000 from Lon Loken for general Trail support, and \$38 from the Scouts for the Trail water fountain project.

Expenses included \$1329 for batteries for the golf cart, and 1,337.97 for benches. We have two benches now in stock

We have \$5,000 in restricted assets; \$171,000 in unrestricted assets.

All filings, tax returns etc. have been completed, \$130 P.O. Box fee, and we spent approximately \$400 for expenses for the annual meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

Chip reported that the Licensing Agreement document is still with the county legal department. Jan will follow up with them.

The Financial Plan document is still in process.

Trail Amenities

Three trail benches have been delivered to the Trail office and as mentioned above, we will soon have two benches in inventory. Two of the benches to be installed will be for Jean Halvorsen and Ernie Foster. There was discussion about having a formal ceremony and anyone attending the installation event was encouraged to take pictures and send them to Richard Valentine so they could be posted on our Facebook page.

Jan inquired about the Trees for the Trail program and Scott mentioned that the program is still in place.

County Update – Casey Morse

Casey has checked into and received permission for PT Inc. to use the ERB Traffic Control office on Drew St. as an alternative meeting place in the future. She can also arrange for a tour of the facility before the meeting. It was agreed that we would try out this idea for the next meeting.

The county and the city of Tarpon Springs have come to agreement to make the Elfer's Spur repairs and joint project and to use both agencies manpower and equipment to the job. No finish date has been set.

The Tri-County project is now under construction with completion set for 2017.

The Coast-to-Coast project is scheduled for completion in 5 years. There are several sections of the project that still need approval/funding/planning.

Pinellas County Trail projects have been divided into 4 phases:

North Gap – Chestnut Park to Enterprise. 6.5 miles

South Gap – Belleair to Ulmerton Rd. 4 miles

South Gap (2) – Ulmerton Rd. to 126th St. 1 mile

South to the North Bay Trail. 8.1 miles

Casey handed out the copies of the newly revised Pinellas Trail map which has been updated to show several of the new projects. The easiest way to tell the difference from the old map is the new "Forward Pinellas" logo which has replaced the MPO logo.

BP Oil Spill Funds

Richard read excerpts from an article in the Beacon newspaper about the different organizations that had lobbied for the funds. He also emphasized that the Pinellas Trail was not mentioned at all.

Both Jan and Scott said that we need to lobby for the Trail and that we should put a plan together to present to the commissioners that focuses on specific items that the funding would be used for should the trail be awarded any of the money.

Larry Norquist Memorial

Richard read Jim Wedlake's e-mail regarding the report on this project. It was also reported that the family wants a tree planted in his memory. It was decided to table this discussion further until Jim returns from out-of-state.

Trail Amenities Database

Pinellas Trails, Inc. is now in possession of the trail amenities database that was created to locate as many of the amenities along the trail as possible. Special thanks go out to auxiliary ranger Tom Robson who volunteered to create the database.

Richard has also obtained PDF files which describe the exact location of the PT markers. There are 24 files in all.

New Business

Scott Daniels reported that \$450 dollars was collected in memory of the passing of Pat O'Hara to be donated to the Pinellas Trail. \$100 is to be used specifically for the Trees for the Trail fund and the balance is to go into the general fund.

The O'Hara's were auxiliary rangers and ardent supporters of the Trail and PT Inc. is honored to receive these funds in her memory.

The Jungle Terrace Association in St. Petersburg will be hosting a "Paint the Pillar" Pizza Party in the Tyrone area on Wednesday, August 10th at 6:00 P.M. The Association, headed by President Dr. Carlson has been responsible for extensive beautification efforts along the trail at the overpass at Tyrone Ave.

Keep Pinellas Beautiful is continuing to look for people to adopt sections of the trail, and this will become more important as the trail continues to be built out.

Scott Daniels reported that the Dunedin Chamber of Commerce has also adopted the section of the trail going through downtown Dunedin that Scott and Marcy Daniels currently have adopted and will partner with them in future maintenance and clean-up efforts.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 2nd, at the ERB facility.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Submitted by
Richard Valentine, Pinellas Trails Secretary