

## APPROVED

### Pinellas Trails, Inc. Work Meeting 8-14-2019 Largo Library, Largo, FL

Meeting called to order by President Scott Daniels: 6:10 P.M.

#### ***Introduction of Meeting Attendees***

Attendees included Scott Daniels, Richard Valentine, Chip Freeman, Jan Hirschfield, Jim Wedlake, Dee Turner, Carol Gray, Joan Rice, Stu Schwartzreich, Deb Kramer and Christine Acosta.

There was a minute of silence in memory of Bob Young, long-standing auxiliary ranger and board member.

Jim Wedlake reported that Bill and Phyllis Romanski's oldest son had recently been killed in an auto accident in Michigan. Everyone at Pinellas Trails, Inc. sends their thoughts and prayers to the Romanski's and their friends and family.

#### ***Secretary's Report – Richard Valentine***

Minutes of March 9, 2019 Annual Meeting were read by Richard Valentine and approved as amended.

#### ***Treasurer's Report - Chip Freeman***

There has not been much change since the last meeting. In April we paid \$1,000 to Maxon; plumbing for repairs and hook-up to a water fountain along the trail in St. Petersburg at First Methodist church that the church could not afford.

The golf carts with the newly re-fitted batteries should last around 3 years and are in heavy use.

We currently have two benches on-hand.

Latest expenses included website domain name renewal for 5 years, tax return filing, \$61 state annual fee, and switching our bank account from 1<sup>st</sup> Citizens to Home Bank.

Chip is sending out an updated request for quote for Directors and Officers insurance today and we should hear something soon and will report at the next meeting.

#### ***Guest Presentation – Christine Acosta***

Christine Acosta gave the group a presentation on her business, Pedal Power Promoters and her work to advocate for more bicycling and walking in the Tampa Bay area. She currently works with many other area groups such as Bike/Walk Tampa, Tampa Bay Mobility, The Florida Bicycle Association and many others, as well as being a licensed trainer in bicycle safety.

Christine recently gave her presentation at the Florida Greenways and Trails meeting, which was attended by Scott Daniels and Jan Hirschfield. They were so impressed with it, that they invited her to speak to Pinellas Trails, Inc.

One of the things Christine mentioned that she feels needs work is "Wayfinding" infrastructure along the trail for those who are not familiar with what kinds of facilities/amenities are available on the trail and nearby. This is something she is hoping we can work together on to improve.

### ***Trail Update – Joan Rice***

The north loop route will be changed slightly, going along Northside Dr instead of Meadowood Dr. as was previously planned. The county is hoping to continue construction on the remainder of the trail sections while this new route is implemented so as not to have any more delays.

A local artist has painted a mural under the Tampa Rd. bridge where the new trail is scheduled to go.

The south loop, Haines/Bayshore to Ulmerton Rd. still requires one more easement of the three that were needed, although this is being close to getting accomplished.

The new assistant county administrator has requested a “Visioning” for the trail that should include EVERYTHING about the trail, what it has and what it needs.

### ***Ranger Report – Carol Gray***

Duke Energy is replacing power line towers along Sunset Pt. road and will be using (i.e. blocking the trail at times, so there will be periodic trail closures as they proceed with this project.

An analyst has been assigned to the Park/Rec. department to assess the level of service that they provide and look for areas of improvement.

Jim Wedlake inquired about the Keep Right/Pass Left markings on the trail and Joan Rice said they are continuing to update the markings based on current guidelines and regulations.

### ***New Business***

Scott Daniels reported on the new water fountain to be installed at East Lake and Keystone Road from a generous donation by David and Linda Feller.

A donation for a memorial bench for Chuck Dawson by the employees of his company will be located at the entrance to Wall Springs park.

Christine Acosta inquired if there are plans in place for a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new water fountain, and Scott Daniels replied that there will probably be one, and we will notify everyone on Facebook of the date and time.

Deborah Kramer inquired as to whether we have ever paid for an amenity for one of our members and this is a precedent that we would prefer not to encourage, although it has been done in the past. There will probably be something done in the future in memory of Bob Young, depending on what his families' wishes are.

The board has taken under consideration. The possibility of changing our name from “Pinellas Trail, Inc.” to “Friends of the Pinellas Trail, Inc.”, which is more in line with the spirit of what the group is and also similar to other county licensed groups like “Friends of Weedon Island” and “Friends of the Brooker Creek Preserve”.

Chip Freeman said that there are not really any major issues; it is just a matter of some paperwork to the government and a small fee.

The board is asking that the membership take this into consideration, hopefully to be rolled out in time for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

### ***Old Business***

Scott Daniels met with the new county administrator, Mr. Burton and reported that he is very much pro-trail and is interested in providing county assistance for the upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. There was also a suggestion of getting assistance from BPAC.

Again, we need volunteers to step up and help make the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration successful.

There was an inquiry about the YouTube video that was done by Path Pedaler productions at the Dunedin Trail Town dedication last year. Richard will look for the video and put a link to it on the "Friends of the Pinellas Trail.org" Facebook page.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Richard Valentine, Secretary