

Pinellas Trails, Inc. – Quarterly Meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 2, 5:30 PM
Pinellas County Transportation Dept. US 19 & Drew St.

Agenda

1. Tour of facility

Casey Morse

2. Meeting Called to Order after Tour

3. Board Members, Members and Guests presented

4. Minutes of Last Meeting:

Richard Valentine, Secretary

5. Treasurer's Report

Chip Freeman, Treasurer

6. Northwest Collision Donation; PT Inc. Supplement

7. Larry Norquist Memorial:

Jim Wedlake

8. Pinellas County Agreement document

9. PTInc. Investment Policy

C. Freeman

10. Pinellas County Safety and Security Task Force Meeting

11. Pinellas County Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Report

12. Fiduciary Bond for Board:

Chip Freeman

13. New Business

Pinellas Trail Under the Dept. of Transportatio: B. Valery

14. Next Meeting:

Picnic, March 2017

15. Questions and Comments

Meeting Adjourned

Approved

Pinellas Trails, Inc.

Work Meeting Minutes – November 2, 2016

Before the meeting, Casey Morse took the group on a tour of the county ITS facility.

Meeting was called to order at approximately 6:40 P.M by Jan Hirschfield.

Meeting attendees included:

Richard Valentine, Jan Hirschfield, Chip Freeman, Casey Morse, Bill and Phyllis Romanski, Carol Gray, Thom Brown, Dee Turner, Bob Young, Bob Estes, Lisa Frank, Sue Moretto and Don Seal.

Secretary's Report – Richard Valentine

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

Treasurer's Report – Chip Freeman

YTD donations total \$7,400, \$5,700 of that amount coming from NW Collision. \$441 interest accrued; spent \$3,000 of which \$2,600 were for trail amenities. We spent \$1,300 for new cart batteries and have purchased three more benches totaling \$1,200 giving us a total of five benches in stock

Chip handed out a summary of donations given to Pinellas Trails, Inc. over the past few years and provided several examples of the type of donations we have received.

We have received a \$275 donation from the family of Larry Norquist which provides the balance needed to purchase a bench in his name. Pete O'Hara also presented a check for \$100 in honor of Pat O'Hara.

The Treasurer's report was approved.

Trail Amenities

Chip reported on the cost increases that have occurred for amenities, and this increase was realized when costs for the NW Collision amenities were added up. The Executive Board met and decided that PT Inc. would cover the additional costs because we felt that it was our obligation to do so. The picnic style bench with cover and water fountain were what was originally envisioned, however there have been some location issues that have arisen and these are being worked out with the county at the present time.

There were several questions about the cost increases and why we couldn't purchase less expensive materials and Chip explained that we are restricted in what we can purchase by the county.

Jim Wedlake reported that the family of Larry Norquist had wanted to plant a tree in his name, however there were watering issues that could not be solved, so they decided on a bench. Currently looking for a location in Largo for installation.

Licensing Agreement

Jan hasn't heard back from the county legal department and has not been able to reach them. He will continue to follow up. We feel we have done our part and are waiting for their approval.

Presentation by Florida Consumer Action Network

Lisa Frank from FCAN (Florida Consumer Action Network) gave a short presentation on the Complete Streets program in St. Petersburg. She is interested in our organization and is hoping that our organizations can team up for further advocacy projects that will benefit both organizations

Investment Policy

Chip reported that the template has been set up for this policy.

Committee Updates

Jan reported on the Safety and Security Task Force Meeting and the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee meetings. The downtown St. Pete cameras have resulted in a marked downturn in criminal activity. There are also bicycle police officers on the trail which also helps reduce illegal activity. The next Safety and Security Task Force Meeting is scheduled for 1/10/17.

At the BPAC meeting, the new Dunedin Causeway was discussed and the committee voted on the 3rd option (highest span). The county commission still wants more information. The routes for trails along Park Blvd and Gulf Blvd are being revised as well as the route over the new bridge near Weedon Island. The City of Largo showed their presentation for upcoming trail improvement plans as well as connecting the Trail to downtown Largo.

Fiduciary Bond –

No report.

County Update – Casey Morse

Casey mentioned that you can go to the Forward Pinellas website to view agendas and presentations, like the one given by Largo.

Brian Smith is working with Sun Trails to get funds for continuing trail projects, including:

\$1.3 Million for Clearwater to construct an overpass at SR 60 and the Courtney Campbell Trail.

\$5.7 Million for Pinellas County to connect the bridge at Enterprise to the Entrance at John Chesnut park on the Pinellas Trail.

NO BP Oil Spill money will be available.

New Business

The question was brought up whether the Pinellas Trail could be put under the auspices of the Dept. of Transportation because there is more money for construction and maintenance. The Trail is

currently under County Parks and Recreation.

Bob Young asked if anyone knew if this was done anywhere else and it was suggested that we contact the national Rails-to-Trails office to find out if anyone there knew.

In response to the above question and others, Tyson Evetts from County Public Works gave the group some insights into current trail policies and procedures.

Bob Young requested that a standard be set for the flashing signs at the crosswalks on the trail, specifically that they have four buttons.

Bill Romanski inquired about the possibility of purchasing used golf carts from the City of St. Petersburg and Carol Gray said that this would not happen because we are not interested in purchased old/used equipment; we need new.

Aux Ranger/Trail Update – Carol Gray

Two memorial bench installation locations have been approved, one for Jean Halvorsen near Largo Central Park and one for Ernie Foster near the YMCA near mile marker 4.

The electric golf carts are working well. One of the new Auxiliary Rangers, Tom Barbosa has experience working on electric carts and his expertise and experience is welcomed.

There is progress being made on the Elfers Spur. The city of Tarpon has done their part and is now waiting on the county for their work to be done.

Carol has created a Shipping Instructions sheet for freight companies and delivery drivers, so that deliveries will be consistent and timely. Copies of the Instruction Sheet have been provided to PT Inc. and we have the electronic version on file.

It was requested that the next meeting take place when the snowbirds are still in town. It was decided that a March date would work, and this will be the annual meeting/auxiliary ranger picnic, probably in Taylor Park.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Submitted by
Richard Valentine, Pinellas Trails Secretary