

Friends of the Blue Star Trail Meeting: June 25,2015

Present: Jeanne Van Zoeren, John Adams, Jim Sullivan, Jim Van Buren, Clark Carmichael, Jan Blaising

1. Introduction of above persons w. background detailed. Jim Sullivan moved to approve minutes of May 28, 2015 meeting. Motion was seconded by John Adams and approved by all present.
2. Treasurer's report presented by John Adams. See attached documentation. Phase II budget update detailed that \$175,752 is available, but \$230,253.00 is needed for completion. Discussion ensued re: sponsorships and amount of funds that are projected from Property Raffle and Quilt Raffle to be held in September, 2015. Ideas to generate additional funds were discussed. (see additional information under # 5 & 6). John also noted that the insurance renewal policy had no significant changes for this year. Agreement from the board to proceed to renew the policy as written.
3. Jeanne gave an update on the progress of Phase II, linking the existing Blue Star bike trail to the Kal-Haven trailhead in South Haven. Jeanne has met and written to South Haven Area Recreational Authority requesting that they take legal responsibility for a grant that would assist with this expansion (maximum grant is \$45,000). Discussion ensued about updating map and promoting publicity for the future of the Blue Star bike trail. There will be some overlap between Phase II and Phase III of expansion.
4. Jim Sullivan attended a meeting with West Michigan Regional Trail Committee whose focus is the development of a bike route between Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo. He had communication with chairperson Andrew Haan who works for a committee reporting to Governor Snyder. This group is interested in the process developed by FBS, but no formal alliance at this time. Their next meeting is 8-12-15 and Jim intends to follow this group as it would be advantageous to have a contact in the Michigan governmental structure.
5. John discussed the progress that has been made in promoting the property raffle, termed Piece of Paradise Raffle. Tickets are being sold for \$100.00 and will be sold through the South Haven and Saugatuck Visitors Bureau. A banner and advertising copy have been developed by Jim Van Buren and were favorably received. Discussion re: value and use of designated property in the Miami Park neighborhood.
6. Jeanne discussed the process for the raffle of a handmade quilt on September 20,2015 at Saugatuck City Hall. Tickets will be \$10.00 and pictures of quilt will be made available.
7. Insurance for August 15, 2015 Lakeshore Harvest Bike Tour will cover volunteers and participants will sign a waiver for claims (see #2 above). Jim Van Buren outlined ideas to publicize this event.
8. No changes in the contract with Hurley-Stewart.
9. Meeting was adjourned at 6:00; next meeting date is July 23, 2015, 4:00 p.m Casco Township Hall.