

**FRIENDS OF THE CASEY JONES TRAIL ASSOCIATION ELECTRONIC MEETING  
AUGUST 6, 2020  
MEETING MINUTES**

The Friends of the Casey Jones Trail Association convened regular session via Zoom on August 6, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. Members present: Mick Myers, Deb Nelson, Dan Wildermuth, Gaelyne VandenBosch, Mike Zinnel, Chris Ingebretsen, Janet Timmerman, Alicia Cordes, Jakob Etrheim, Stephanie Corver, Colleen Tollefson, Roseann Schauer, Lori Gunnink, SRDC Representatives Jessica Welu and Jason Walker, and Jim Jens.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Agenda was approved as presented.

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Motion was made by Lori, seconded by Mike and unanimously carried to approve the following bills: Kindel Nelson – June (\$200) and July 2020 (\$250) Mowing and The Pipestone Indian Shrine Association - \$42.15 for Trail Scavenger Hunt prize.

Motion was made by Mick, seconded by Deb and unanimously carried to appoint Jakob Etrheim to the position of Treasurer replacing Amy Rucker.

**BUSINESS**

**LCCMR 2020-2021 – Currie Loop Trail**

Emails were sent to Board members and members of the Friends group to email legislators to encourage them to support the proposed LCCMR 2021 funding to upgrade and rehab a portion of the loop trail section of the Casey Jones Trail Association.

**Facebook Pages and Website Updates**

Jessica Welu from Southwest Regional Development Commission updated the Board on the status of the Facebook pages and the website. Jessica stated there are still three separate Facebook pages: The “Friends of the Casey Jones State Trail” page (determined to be the official page – the one Chris administers), the “Casey Jones State Trail – MN” page (Erica at the Chamber administers) and the “Casey Jones State Trail” page which is a Facebook/Wikipedia created page. Jessica is recommending the following:

- Have Erica merge the Casey Jones State Trail – MN page with the Friends of the Casey Jones State Trail page.
- Have the Board decide what the official name of the Facebook page should be.
- The website link on the official page should be caseyjonesstatetrail.org instead of the DNR page. There is also a phone number listed on the page (825-3316) and Board will need to decide if they wish to keep the number or remove it.

Stephanie Korver has agreed to be the administrator on the FB page but would like to have someone to go to and ask content questions since she is not familiar with the Friends' initiatives.

Jessica is recommending the following regarding administrators and editors:

- Have a small number of administrators that would have full access to the Facebook page.
- Have editors that could add content to the page but would not be able to change the page settings.
- Have social media guidelines that outline the purpose of the page and type of content that should be put on the page and provide these guidelines to all administrators and editors.
- Have a tentative social media calendar that the group can review at each meeting and assign posts to administrators/editors.

Motion was made by Deb, seconded by Gaelynn and unanimously carried to approve and begin work on all of Jessica's recommendations listed above regarding the website and Facebook page. It was also decided to use remaining hours of the current contract with SRDC and have Jessica update the content/look of the website as she determines would be in the best interest of the Friends.

#### Extend SRDC Contract

Motion was made by Dan, seconded by Mike and unanimously carried to extend the SRDC contract to the end of October at which time, the contract will be re-evaluated.

The Board thanked Jessica and Jason for all their support of the Friends and the Casey Jones State Trail and we look forward to a continued working relationship with them through SRDC.

#### DNR Update

Chris then updated the Board stating due to the continued COVID-19 pandemic, there is still limited employees with the State Park system but that there has been increased usage of trails and parks since the pandemic started.

#### 5-Year Timeline Development

Mick presented a 5-year timeline that was developed in order to help the Friends determine five-year priorities and finalize funding goals for the 2021 session. Items that require immediate attention regarding development include:

- Complete two miles to Woodstock (graded and shovel ready) \$975,000.
- Ensure ADA improvements on previously developed segment - \$85,810.
- Rehabilitate the existing 7 miles of horse trail - \$?
- Complete 1.5 miles to Murray County line - \$?
- Resurface remainder of Currie Loop Trail between Lake Shetek State Park and Currie - \$?

On deck items include:

- Connect trail from Murray County Line to 1.5 miles West of Lake Wilson – acquire remaining land – 3.5 miles or utilize alternate route.

- Begin scoping out route to Hadley – and landowners.
- Scope out potential for Walnut Grove Area.

Other items to do:

- Solicit resolutions from Mayors/City Councils, County Commissioners, RDC, Lake Associations, Youth, Seniors, Minority organizations.
- Present the trail route and the Friends funding efforts to the Lake Shetek Association.
- Develop support materials – maps, handouts, talking points.
- PR and awareness – lead person?
- Increase membership of the Friends group.
- Paint rocks and place on trails.

A subcommittee consisting of Mike Zinnel, Colleen Tollefson, Alicia Cordes and Stephanie Korver was appointed to begin working on scoping out a route and willing landowners surrounding Hadley and Walnut Grove.

#### Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date is September 17, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom.

#### **ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

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Deb Nelson  
Secretary