

**FRIENDS OF THE CASEY JONES TRAIL ASSOCIATION
MARCH 1, 2018
MINUTES**

The Friends of the Casey Jones Trail Association convened regular session on March 1, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. at the Slayton Pizza Ranch. Members present: Jim Jens, Ron Qualley, Lee Lokker, Phil Nasby, Mick Myers and Deb Nelson.

APPROVE AGENDA

There being no additions or changes to the agenda, the agenda stands as presented.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion was made by Deb, seconded by Jim and unanimously carried to approve the July 12, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes and the September 20, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes.

TREASURER'S & MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Motion was made by Ron, seconded by Jim and unanimously carried to approve the Treasurer's Report.

OLD BUSINESS

Lake Wilson Meeting Report/Comments

Ron Qualley shared the presentation at the January meeting of the Lake Wilson City Council was well received. There was no negative feedback and the city is willing to work with the Friends on building up the west side of the trailhead that is owned by the city.

Pipestone Trail Head Plan

Mick shared a program that he found called the Community Roadside Landscaping Partnership Program through MnDOT. MnDOT would partner with a community to landscape MnDOT's right-of-way located along state highways. MnDOT provides a landscape design engineer and would provide funding up to \$20,000 to the community. Contact is Todd Carroll, State Landscape Partnership Coordinator.

Phil will look into this program for the Pipestone trailhead.

Resolution 2018-1

Mick shared Greater Minnesota Parks & Trails Organization has several key goals for this year's legislative session, including increasing the amount of money appropriated to the various local parks and trails grants program administered by the Department of Natural Resources. The Legislative Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources has recommended that \$2 million be

dedicated to these programs from the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund. In addition, the GMPT introduced a bill last year seeking \$2.5 million in bonding for both the Local Trails Connection Program and the Outdoor Recreation Program.

They are asking for a resolution supporting their goals for this year's session.

Motion was made by Deb, seconded by Ron and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2018-1: A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BONDING MONEY FOR PARKS AND TRAILS.

Minnesota Parks & Trails Day on the Hill – March 8th

Mick informed the Board that Minnesota Parks & Trails Day on the Hill is scheduled for March 8th from 9:00 – 1:00. He is unable to attend this year due to prior engagements and asked if anyone else would be willing to attend. Deb will put this out in an email to the board.

DNR Update

Phil informed the Board that DNR is working on reorganizing the parks, trails and waterways division of DNR and it's quite possible that Phil will no longer be DNR's representative for the Casey Jones trail. He stated Chris Engebretsen with Blue Mound State Park and Split Rock Creek State Park would replace him and spoke highly of Chris. Phil will ask Chris to attend the next meeting so we can meet him.

Phil then informed the Board that DNR is waiting on the weather so they can get on the trail and begin developing bid specifications and documents to pave the next five miles to Woodstock. He said it might be possible to complete the project by Fall 2018. Discussion then followed on the route through Woodstock with Phil stating he felt going around the Kruisselbrink land to the north would be the best route. Mick stated he and Dan Wildermuth will meet with Brad Kruisselbrink to discuss this route option and report back at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 29th at 11:30 a.m. at the Slayton Pizza Ranch.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Deb Nelson
Secretary