

**FRIENDS OF THE CASEY JONES TRAIL ASSOCIATION**  
**APRIL 19, 2017**  
**MINUTES**

The Friends of the Casey Jones Trail Association convened regular session on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of April 2017 at 11:30 a.m. at the Pizza Ranch in Slayton. Members present: Mick Myers, Deb Nelson, Bruce Johnson, Amy Rucker, Mike Zinnell, Chris Hollingsworth, Janet Timmerman, Dan Wildermuth, Jim Jens, Ron Qualley, Lee Lokker, and Phil Nasby. Ex-officio member: Glen Livermont.

President Mick Myers called the meeting to order.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion was made by Chris, seconded by Deb and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.

**APPROVE MINUTES**

Motion was made by Bruce, seconded by Chris and unanimously carried to approve the November 18, 2015 Minutes; January 20, 2016 Minutes; and the April 13, 2016 Minutes.

**TREASURER'S AND MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Amy distributed the Profit & Loss Statement noting a net income of \$2,611.00. Checking account balance is \$9,542.12 with \$1,000 earmarked for benches.

Dues in the amount of \$395 haven't been paid yet to various groups that the Friends belong to. This would include Chamber membership fees for Pipestone and Slayton, Currie Town & Country Boosters, Walnut Grove Area Community Club, Lake Wilson Community Club, Greater Minnesota Parks & Trails and Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota.

Motion was made by Bruce, seconded by Deb and unanimously carried to pay dues totaling \$395.00.

Amy mentioned there would be one other expenditure which is the property tax for the Lake Wilson property.

Discussion then followed on mowing and maintenance of the property with Amy stating the Friends paid \$585 in mowing and spraying last year.

Deb said that her husband Kindel is willing to mow again this year, but has increased the fee to \$50 per mowing due to the condition of the property citing debris, uneven ground, rocks, chunks of cement, among other things. It was the consensus of the Board to have Kindel check into someone that would be able to till the ground, pick up the rocks and level it out.

The membership report was distributed noting a total of 32 members.

Motion was made by Janet, seconded by Chris and unanimously carried to approve the Treasurer's/Membership Report.

## **BUSINESS**

### Review Bylaws

Amy informed the Board that a couple of tweaks need to be made with the bylaws. She pointed out the following tweaks she is recommending:

- Section 6, Article III – change quorum to five instead of 10.
- Section 1, Article IV – typo correction I to in.
- Section 3, Article V – delete “and shall submit said minutes to the Secretary for recording in the official minute book.”
- Section 1, Article VI – change the structure of the Executive Committee from five to four officers.
- Section 1, Article VII – add the word meetings after Executive Committee and change its to their.

Amy will make the corrections and bring before the Board for approval at our next meeting.

### Parks & Trails Day on the Hill

Ron and Mick updated the Board on Parks & Trails Day on the Hill.

- Toured the newly renovated Capitol building.
- Tried to visit with Representative Schomacker but he was in session.
- By chance, met with Senator Weber and asked for his support of our trail project.

### DNR Update

Phil updated the Board on the status of funding for DNR stating it's a grave situation. He said the Senate and House did not take up any of Dayton's budget which included the DNR's budget. DNR is not taking on any new projects due to lack of funding. He has two vacancies that will not be filled. They are looking at cuts now.

### Woodstock to Lake Wilson Trail Segment

Amy said she had talked with Janet Voges from Minnwest Bank and Janet said that her family had sold land to the DNR along the trail corridor that would make a good rest area along the trail. She also said that her brother, Kevin, has land adjacent to the trail. Amy was asked to talk to Janet about this and see if she though Kevin would be amenable to selling land outright or granting an easement.

### Bikes at Trailhead in Pipestone

Deb shared there are bikes for rent in Pipestone at the Rec Center and the Rec Center Director is looking for an alternate location so bikes can also be rented during evening hours and weekends. They have been looking at a credit card machine like in the cities where they swipe their card

and can grab the bike. She was wondering if the trailhead in Pipestone could be a possible location due to the close proximity to the trail.

Phil responded he would check into it but since it would be making money, it was doubtful the trailhead could be used as a possible location.

### Trail Brochure

At one time, the Friends had developed an 11 x 17 foldable map with information regarding the existing and proposed Casey Jones Trail. Deb asked if this is something we are still going to do. When we first discussed this project, the National Park Service was interested in helping pay for costs associated with the map but due to the uncertainty at all levels of government, it was felt it wasn't a viable project at this time. Amy did say that she has been using the map from the DNR website and that has been working very well.

### Annual Meeting

The Board discussed ideas for the annual meeting. It was brought up to have the annual meeting in Pipestone instead of Slayton. Mick and Deb will check to see about using Hiawatha Lodge for the annual meeting. This will be discussed more at the next meeting.

### Buttons

Mick asked if we should be making more of the support buttons that were given to each member earlier in the meeting. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to distribute the remaining buttons evenly to the Pipestone Chamber, End-O-Line Railroad Park and Slayton Chamber asking for a \$10 donation per button. We can order 50 more when this supply runs low.

### Other

Janet mentioned it was brought to her attention that the markers and informational signs on the Six-Mile Loop trail should be brought back. A tire repair station would also be nice addition to the trail.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. at the Slayton Pizza Ranch.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Janet, seconded by Chris and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

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Deb Nelson  
Secretary