

**FRIENDS OF THE CASEY JONES TRAIL ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 14, 2017**

The Friends of the Casey Jones Trail Association convened their annual meeting on June 14, 2017 at the Hiawatha Lodge in Pipestone at 1:00 p.m. Members present: Mick Myers, Amy Rucker, Ron Qualley, Deb Nelson, Chris Hollingsworth, Dan Wildermuth, and Phil Nasby. Others present: Pipestone Mayor Myron Koets, Harvey Reder, Bill Johnson, Donald Erickson, Quentin Crow, Debra Fitzgerald, Janet Bush, and Roger Elgersmoe.

President Mick Myers called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Chris, seconded by Dan and unanimously carried to approve the June 22, 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Amy distributed the Profit & Loss Statement and Balance sheet for January through December 2016. Total expenses for the year totaled \$15,091.70 with total equity in the amount of \$6,931.12.

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mick summarized a few highlights of 2016-2017:

- The signs are ready for the Casey Jones Trail support buttons and visitors to the various Chamber offices along the trail route can receive a button with a \$10 donation.
- The legislative session ended on time but without the Casey Jones State Trail receiving any funding.
- Members attended the Trails Day on the Hill and met with Senator Weber.
- A trailhead sign is being designed for the trailhead in Lake Wilson.
- The Friends are advocating for funding to make landscaping improvements at the trailhead in Pipestone.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Amy stated it was not necessary to elect officers this year but the Boardmember position held by Louise Gervais would need to be filled.

Mayor Myron Koets volunteered to finish the term of Louise Gervais.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Trail Update

Amy then gave a PowerPoint presentation on the history of the trail and reviewed our priorities and future plans.

DNR Update

Phil Nasby, Department of Natural Resources, informed everyone present that \$1 million dollars was allocated in LCCMR funding to assist with trail development in Southwest Minnesota. Erika Rivers, Parks, Trails and Water Division of DNR, has allocated \$600,000 of the \$1M to pave the next five miles of the Casey Jones State Trail to Woodstock. This would connect two communities for a total trail of 10 miles. Phil said that the money would become available July 1, 2017 and it is the intent of DNR to start construction and paving Spring of 2018.

Other

Harvey Reder from Woodstock informed the Board that he owns property by the trail east of Woodstock that has never been plowed. He would be willing to sell the property to DNR if they are interested. Phil stated he would look into this.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Deb Nelson
Secretary