

Friends of Montclair Railroad Trail
Meeting of the Board
August 3, 2011
US Bank

Present: Lin Barron, Jim Dexter, Carol Copperud, Henry Schott.
Guest: Carol Salvin

Vice Chair Jim Dexter called the meeting to order at 2:40 pm.

Minutes for the July 6, 2011 meeting were approved.

Treasurer H. Schott's distributed the monthly report, showing a balance of \$968 as of August 1. He also reported that a total of \$88 was donated at the table set up at the June 12 Farmers' Market. He suggested a number of ways FOMRRT's presence could be improved at future events. It was suggested that FOMRRT could communicate its presence to more groups on a regular basis, such as the MVA, MSIC, FOOSC and various neighborhood associations. This task was given to the Chair and Vice-Chair.

The Chair's report, submitted in absentia, noted a September 25 deadline for researching, purchasing and installing the new toolshed at the location approved by the City at the Corporation Yard.

Committee Reports

Vegetation: L. Barron presented a draft brochure about neighborhoods planting options near the trail, and introduced Carol Salvin, a volunteer graphic designer who prepared the brochures. The brochure was positively received, with a few suggestions for improvement. L. Barron will share the draft with relevant City staff (Council Member Schaaf, Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, Make Oakland Beautiful) and include relevant logos. A date indicating version will be incorporated. C. Salvin presented estimates of printing costs using various papers and merchants. She will pursue discounts for non-profits, and will gather estimates for larger quantities.

The Board approved the following motion:

The final draft will be sent out for email approval before the September Board meeting, requiring four affirmative votes. Any objection relating to content will require the draft to come to discussion at the September meeting.

The goal is to have a final product distributed before FOOSC's annual native plant sale on October 16, 2011. The Board agreed to provide a small acknowledgement of C. Salvin's considerable contributions, in the form of a gift certificate to a local merchant.

Hardscape: The report that was submitted was not discussed. However, the Board discussed ways of alerting contractors who might use the trail to gain access to backyards (e.g., for tree removal) of their obligation to work with appropriate City staff. For example, signs might be placed at the four vehicular entrances. The Board approved two motions:

Discuss with Oakland's Public Works their requirements for notification by private contractors for bringing equipment onto the trail.

Advise the Sign Committee of the need for incorporating appropriate language onto signs, advising private contractors about these City requirements.

There were no other committee reports.

Old Business

The Board approved the following motion:

Authorization for the Treasurer to repay Carolyn Burd for PayPal expenses that were charged to her credit card.

J. Dexter will handle the Snake Bridge asphalt issue with the City, or will look into doing the work ourselves.

L. Barron reported that the walk with LeRoy Griffin and the botanist has not happened (see July 6 minutes.) She also questioned what has happened to the RFP for weed-whacking. The Board approved the following motion:

L. Barron, at the request of the Board, will contact LeRoy Griffin about the status of the RFP, copying M. Petouhoff.

The Board approved the following motions:

FOMRRT will have an information table at the August 14 Farmers' Market.

The Treasurer is authorized to spend up to \$50 for preparing information materials and setting up the table.

The Secretary will send an email request asking for volunteers to help staff the table.

New Business

In response to MVA's request that FOMRRT's meetings not interrupt their meetings (which start at 6:30 pm), the Board agreed to meet at 6:00 pm on the first Wednesdays of each month at the US Bank.

The September 7 Board meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. The agenda will include a presentation on printing costs for the brochure, and a final vote on the brochure, if necessary.

The Board approved the following motion:

The official acronym of Friends of Montclair Railroad Trail is FOMRRT.

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Copperud
Secretary