

Friends of Montclair Railroad Trail
Meeting of the Board
September 7, 2011
US Bank

Present: Lin Barron, Barbara Brochard, Carol Copperud, Mike Petouhoff.

Chair Barbara Brochard called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Minutes for the August 3, 2011 meeting were approved, with one correction noting that a report from the Hardscape Committee had been submitted.

Treasurer H. Schott's monthly report showed a balance of \$1200 as of September 1, with the increase due to donations and new memberships received at the Farmers Market.

The Chair's report noted that the Chair had met with David Lonestar, from Public Works, about the still-missing grate at the new drain near Bishops Court. She advised him that FOMRRT will follow-up on the adopt-a-drain commitment once that grate is installed. She also reported that the shed, once purchased, will be installed at a different location at the Corporation Yard than the one originally agreed on with the City. It was confirmed that J. Dexter is responsible for the purchase and installation of the shed, by September 25.

The Vice Chair's report, presented in absentia, stated that Vice Chair Dexter will be the point person on repairing the asphalt at the Snake Road Bridge, and that he will follow through on making sure the work is completed.

Committee Reports

Vegetation: L. Barron reported that she had uploaded all documents related to trail Work Day (instructions for setting up, volunteer forms, etc.) In anticipation of annual fire safety trail clearance work, she has also tagged the native plants which are not to be disturbed; she also added information signs to some of them, noting why they are valuable plants. She has found volunteers to help in spreading chips behind McCaulou's and around the bench area next to the bridge.

L. Barron also reported that she is unable to continue as sole organizer of trail work days. The Board agreed to try a rotation plan, in which each Board member would take responsibility for one work day. C. Copperud volunteered for September and B. Brochard volunteered for October.

Etiquette: Mel Terry submitted a written report noting that there was very little dog poop evident on the trail. This finding was disputed, and the Board will urge M. Terry to continue to work to find solutions.

Hardscape: M. Petouhoff reported that the City will probably spend the remaining contract money on improvements to the Saroni and Tiffany section of the trail. The consequences are that this would leave no funds for other drainage projects. He reported that it is

permissible to paint the metal structure installed at the Bishops Court drainage basin, and to add plants to camouflage and beautify the area.

Old Business

M. Petouhoff presented a design for a logo for the trail, which could also be adapted for use by the Friends of Montclair Railroad Trail. The Board approved the following motion:

Pursue engaging the services of a graphic designer to refine the proposed design.

Chair Brochard reported that there were seven affirmative votes supporting the brochure about landscape plant choices produced by the Vegetation Committee for distribution to trail neighbors. The Board approved the following motion:

Print 500 brochures, using A&M Printers of Pleasanton.

M. Petouhoff presented an update of Fire Prevention activities, following discussions held in June. Given the lateness of the fire season, many activities will be deferred a year, however, there is a possibility of holding a trail walk with the selected biologist/botanist to discuss the upcoming fire season.

New Business

C. Copperud noted the interest of Jeff Kahn, a trail neighbor, in participating in the Board's activities. She was asked to solicit his resume or brief bio so the Board would have an idea of his skills and expertise.

The Board agreed that the next Farmer's Market display and solicitation should be December 4, following the Montclair Village Association procedures for applying to have a table at the Market.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 5 at 6:00 p.m. at US Bank. Chair Brochard will not be present.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Copperud
Secretary