



## MANISTEE COUNTY RECREATION COMMISSION

Monday, May 1, 2023  
6:15 P.M.

Manistee County Board of Commissioner's Room  
and via Zoom

### MINUTES

Members Present: Wayne Beldo, Chair; Margaret Batzer, Vice Chair; Gary Schwaiger, Secretary; Linda Cudney; Devin Wegner; Eleanor DeYoung; Robert Schulke; Bob DeYoung

Members Absent: Jeff Lawrence; Bryan Dunlop;

Others Present: Kristyn Malkowski, Recording Secretary; Katie Mehl, Manistee County Zoning Administrator/Planner I; Mike Szokola, Manistee County Planning Director; Doug Barry, DNR

Mr. Beldo called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM, roll call was taken.

Scheduling conflicts are causing multiple absences of members at the Recreation Commission meetings. The commission is aware each member is trying their best to ensure all duties of the Recreation Commission are fulfilled.

Approval of the May 1, 2023, meeting agenda.

**There was a motion by Mr. Schwaiger, supported by Ms. Batzer, to amend the May 1, 2023, agenda by removing the following items from "Old Business"; Bylaws – Creation of Annual Report discussion and the Vacant Recreation Commission Seat. All in favor, motion carried.**

Approval of the March 6, 2023, meeting minutes.

**There was a motion by Ms. Cudney, supported by Ms. Batzer to approve the March 6, 2023, meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.**

Public Comment: No public present.

Trail Champions: Mr. Barry informed the commission that this summer, the DNR staff will be constructing a trail head at the intersection of the Kaleva and Chief trail. More information to come soon.

Staff Reports: Mr. Szokola had nothing new to update besides the items under "Old Business".

Friends of Smart Trails Report: The March 13, 2023, Friends of SMARTrails meeting minutes were presented, along with the April 10, 2023, meeting agenda (Appendix A). Ms. Cudney also presented the April 10, 2023, Friends of SMARTrails meeting minutes were presented, along with the May 8, 2023, meeting agenda (Appendix B).

Old Business:

Spark Grant Update: Mr. Szokola would like to highlight that this grant is highly competitive this time around and a letter of support is still needed. There was suggestion to remove the spark grant from the agenda, until further notice. The commission agreed.

Minger Grant Update: Mr. Szokola updated the commission on the upcoming renewal of the contract between the Manistee County Planning Department and the City of Manistee. If the contract is renewed, the Minger Grant application process will move forward. If the contract is not renewed, the Minger Grant is no longer needed due to an increase in staff time within the Planning department. Discussions regarding this matter will be brought up at the May 3, 2023, City Council meeting.

Railroad Relocation Update: Mr. Szokola is anticipating data to come through regarding grant information for the planning project.

Parks & Recreation Manager Update: Update dependent on the outcome of the City of Manistee council meeting on May 3, 2023.

County ORV Map: Mr. Szokola requested assistance on reaching out to the following townships/villages, to receive data that will help with the creation of an updated County ORV map. Arcadia; Village of Bear Lake; Village of Copemish; Onekama; Stronach. Ms. Cudney will bring awareness to the SMARTrails and other groups in hopes to form communication.

Dam Update: Mr. Beldo is to attend a meeting that is taking place on May 26, 2023, between 2:30-3:30 PM at the Maple Grove Township Hall, located at 920 Kauko St, Kaleva. Mr. Beldo intends to bring the opposition of the removal of the dams to the attention of Senator Hoitenga.

New Business: No new business.

Other Items from Committee Members: Mr. Schwaiger made the commission aware that he will not be able to attend the July Recreation Commission meeting. Ms. Cudney made the commission aware of the revised schedule for the Michigan Township Association meetings. Along with the Manistee County Chapter Annual Dinner meeting which will be held on May 24, 2023, at the Norman Township Hall (Appendix C).

Mr. Beldo adjourned the meeting at 6:47 PM. Next meeting will be on June 5, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Schwaiger, Recreation Commission

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**Friends of SMARTrails**  
**Village of Kaleva former Elementary School**  
**9208 Kauko Street**  
**Kaleva, MI 49645**  
**Monday, April 10, 2023**  
**6:00 PM**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
  1. Roll Call
  
- II. Consent Agenda**
  1. Approval of March 13, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
  2. Treasurers Report and payment of bills.
  
- III. New Business**
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
  
- IV. Old Business**
  1. Update of Website
  2. EDA Update
  3. Strategic Plan redo
  4. Summer Festivals
  - 5.
  
- V. Other Business**
  1. County Recreation Commission update
  2. Marketing Committee Update
  
- VI. Board Members Comments/Correspondence**
  
- VII. Adjourn**
  
- VIII. Next meeting date: Monday, May 8, 2023**



**Friends of SMARTrails  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 13, 2023  
Kaleva Community Center  
6:00 PM**

**Board Members Present:** Karen Kolk, Vice-president; Linda Cudney, Secretary; Jacque Erdman, Treasurer; Claire Richard, Zachary Pawlowski.

**Board Members Absent:** Elaine Gibbs, Rob Carson, Dave Myers..

**Guests:** Mark Coe, Wayne Beldo.

- I. **Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M. by Karen Kolk, vice president.
- II. **Consent Agenda** It was motioned and supported to accept the consent agenda. AIF. Motion carried.
  1. **February 13, 2023 Board Minutes**  
Motioned by Jacque Erdman, seconded by Claire Richard to accept the minutes from the February 13, 2023 meeting. AIF. Motion Carried.
  2. **Treasurers Report and Payment of Bills**  
Jacque Erdman presented a financial report, which shows some paypal transactions, one being a charge for \$33.54 on February 13, 2023. Also, one recurring bill monthly to Pro Web Marketing for \$25.00. Linda motioned to accept the Treasurers report and payment of bills, Zach seconded it. AIF.  
Jacque passed out a budget form with income and expenses for 2023. Total suggested income of \$16,022.00 and total suggested expenses of \$16,022.00. Included in this is the approximate \$4,300.00 request to the Manistee County Community Foundation for staging area over by Chief. Motioned by Linda, seconded by Claire to accept the proposed budget for the 2023 year. AIF.
- III. **New Business**
  1. **Memorandum of Understanding between TARP, FBVT and SMART.**  
Looking over the MOU that Rob drafted, it was agreed to allow Rob to sign and send it on to Charles Kraus and Jed Maker. Motioned by Jacque, seconded by Linda to have Rob to sign and send on. AIF.
  2. **Approval of Letter of Support to FBVT.**  
Motioned by Jacque, seconded by Claire to send letter of support to the Friends of Betsie Valley Trail for their application for a SPARK grant. AIF.
  3. **Summer Festivals.**  
Linda passed out a list of summer festivals and a couple more were added. Discussion

included getting a nicer display board, a table, an EZ Up tent. Linda will check with Dave about the rack cards, as we may need more of them for this year, with our new logo. Dave is storing the stuff right now. Mark Coe, from the Snowbirds offered the clubhouse if we need a place to store. Regarding National Trails Day on June 3, it was decided to check with TARP and see if they might want to coordinate with us in Thompsonville, as the new trail will be going in from Thompsonville to Copemish this year. If not, Jacque will check with Northern Natural again.

**4. 2023 Budget for Friends of SMARTrails**

This was covered under the Treasurers report.

**IV. Old Business**

**1. Update of Website**

Rob is waiting on a response from Google Non Profit. Jacque has mailed the change of address. Zach is working on a quarterly newsletter to go out soon. Claire worked on a survey to put on the website, which was looked at. The survey could be passed out at the summer festivals to anyone who would want to fill them out.

**2. EDA Update**

Rob is not in attendance, but sent an email on the update. Final design does not occur until an engineering firm is hired and they perform an analysis of what is needed. March 10<sup>th</sup> is RFP due date. Proposals will be reviewed with the DNR and Networks Northwest. A construction bid RFP will be developed and contracts drafted and approved by EDA. Construction hopefully initiated by late summer.

**3. Strategic Plan Update**

Maybe we can have Tamara come one more time to help us update our strategic plan. (It was stated that she was supposed to come in January).?

**V. Other Business**

**1. Recreation Commission Update.** Wayne Beldo and Linda spoke on the County Recreation Commission. There still is a vacancy for the spot Erin Secord held, who moved to Marquette.

**2. Bylaws**

Linda was looking through the bylaws on quorums and annual meetings came up. In looking at older minutes in June of 2021, Jacque and Rob were nominated to serve a 2 year term and ending at the annual meeting in 2023. So possibly scheduling an annual meeting a half hour early in June of 2023.

3. **Wayne Beldo** informed the Board that the Village of Kaleva is submitting a grant to put in a staging area for bicycles, etc. over by the Village Park.
4. Another board member may be needed on the SMARTrails Board. Mark Coe was asked if he would like to be on the SMARTrails board and he commented that he comes anyway. Jacque made a motion to nominate Mark to the SMARTrails Board. Linda seconded the motion, AIF. Welcome Mark.
5. There was discussion on getting letterhead, stationary, cards, and envelopes with our logo. We will look into it.
6. There was some discussion to ask Rob if there was a better night for him to attend our meetings than a Monday. He is such an important part of SMARTrails, we miss not having him at the meetings.

**VI. Comments/Correspondence**

Linda sent Rusty Fish a thank you card for their very generous donation and also a thank you card to Charles Kraus from TARP. Made up a couple of extra cards in case we need to use them.

**VII. Adjourn.** Motioned and supported to adjourn at 7:20 P.M.

**Next meeting will be Monday, April 10, 2023, at 9208 Kauko Street, Kaleva at 6:00 P.M.**

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by:

**Linda Cudney  
Secretary  
Friends of SMARTrails**

<b><u>2023 Festival Dates</u></b>		
<b>National Trails Day</b>	<b>June 3, 2023</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>Spirit of the Woods Festival</b>	<b>June 17, 2023</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>Thompsonville Summerfest</b>	<b>June 19, 2023</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>Manistee Forest Festival</b>	<b>June 29-30 July 1-2-3-4</b>	<b>Th-Fri-Sat-Sun-Mo-Tu</b>
<b>Bear Lake Days</b>	<b>July 7-9, 2023</b>	<b>Friday, Saturday, Sunday</b>
<b>Kaleva Heritage Days</b>	<b>July 15-16, 2023</b>	<b>Saturday &amp; Sunday</b>
<b>Arcadia Days</b>	<b>July 21-22-23, 2023</b>	<b>Friday, Saturday, Sunday</b>
<b>Onkama Days</b>	<b>August 4-5-6-7, 2023</b>	<b>Friday, Sat., Sun, Mon</b>
<b>Copemish Days</b>	<b>August 4-5-6, 2023</b>	<b>Friday, Saturday, Sunday</b>
<b>Run The Pier</b>	<b>August 12, 2023</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>Manistee County Fair</b>	<b>August 15-19, 2023</b>	<b>Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat</b>
<b>Minnehaha Brewhaha</b>	<b>September 2-3, 2023</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>Big Bear Butt Cruise</b>	<b>August 26, 2023</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>Brethren Days</b>	<b>September 2-3-4, 2023</b>	<b>Friday, Saturday, Sunday</b>
<b>Rusty Fish 100</b>	<b>October 14, 2023</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>Victorian Festival?</b>		



**Friends of SMARTrails  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, April 10, 2023  
Kaleva Community Center  
6:00 PM**

**Board Members Present:** Karen Kolk, Vice-president; Linda Cudney, Secretary; Jacque Erdman, Treasurer; Mark Coe, Zachary Pawlowski, Dave Myers.

**Board Members Absent:** Elaine Gibbs, Rob Carson, Claire Richard.

**Guests:** Sara Herberger, Jan Myers.

- I. **Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 6:01 P.M. by Karen Kolk, vice president.
- II. **Consent Agenda** It was motioned and supported to accept the consent agenda. AIF. Motion carried.
  1. **March 13, 2023 Board Minutes**  
Motioned by Mark Coe, seconded by Dave Myers to accept the minutes from the March 13, 2023 meeting. AIF. Motion Carried.
  2. **Treasurers Report and Payment of Bills**  
Jacque Erdman presented a profit and loss Budget vs. actual report along with a statement of financial position, along with financial report. It shows we still have \$12,178.28 as a balance. One bill this month to Pro Web Marketing for \$25.00. Jacque will check into an auto pay or 1/4ly payment to Pro Web marketing. Jacque contacted Pay Pal and figured out the \$34.58 discrepancy and got it taken care of. Linda motioned to accept the Treasurers report and payment of bills, Mark seconded it. AIF.  
Zach is working on the request to the Manistee County Community Foundation for the staging area by Chief. Motioned by Jacque, supported by Dave, to allow the 10 percent match money of \$432.00 be applied to the request. Roll Call Vote. All Ayes.
- III. **New Business** None
- IV. **Old Business**
  1. **Update of Website**  
Zach reported he has been working on the website and there are a lot of changes. He would like to get pictures of the board members to put on the website.
  2. **EDA Update** No report
  3. **Strategic Plan Update**



The marketing committee met and went over the strategic plan and added the MOU to the plan, and added members, and refined the language in some of the areas. Claire offered to put in the plan revisions. Jacque went thru the areas and will contact Claire to add bullets where needed and also some wording needing to change. We will look over at the May meeting to adopt the changes.

#### **4. Summer Festivals**

The group went over the summer festival dates. Linda had contacted Charles Kraus regarding the location of National Trails Day to be held in Thompsonville. He was gone to Toyko, Japan until this week. Linda will contact him and possibly Jed Maker from Friends of Betsie Valley Trail. It was decided to begin at 11:00 AM and Jacque will be there at the beginning, Linda can be there after Cleon Township Clean Up Day, between noon and 12:30. Dave Myers will see if he can attend also.

Zach also informed us of a Bicycle Rodeo, in conjunction with the Shoreline Cycling Club which will be held at West Shore Community College at 10:00 AM on May 13, 2023.

Jacque will contact Spirit of the Woods Festival also.

### **V. Other Business**

**1. Recreation Commission Update.** No meeting so no report.

#### **2. Marketing Committee Update**

Linda, Zach, Claire and Jacque met on Thursday, March 23, 2023 and worked on the revisions to the Strategic Plan, went thru the festival dates for 2023, Claire worked on a survey for our quarterly newsletter and to hand out at summer festivals, checking with the County Rec Commission to see if they want to put something in the newsletter, checking on a better tri-fold board to put the Park to Park map on and make it easier to read, along with the trail segment description. Also, Zach was looking at routes for National Trails Day and Linda was contacting Charles Kraus to see if they would like to be part of the event for National Trails day, along with the Friends of the Betsie Valley Trail, if we do the event in Thompsonville.

**3.** Since Rob is such an important part of SMARTrails, we miss not having him at the meetings. Jacque will contact him and see which nights are more accessible to him, so he can attend. Some dates were the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month, or Thursday's, depending on which week. After we find out, we will send out a revised calendar.

### **VI. Comments/Correspondence**

**1.** Mark Coe informed the group of a new group forming called the Dirt Birds, a group that is looking into opportunities for trails for ORV's, side by sides, etc. The meeting will be on Saturday, April 15, at the Snowbirds Clubhouse from 9:00 AM- 11:00 PM. If anyone is interested in attending, let them know.

**2. E-Bikes** were discussed regarding riding on hiking and biking trails. There are state regulations, but how are they enforced for the different E bikes. Possibly the County Recreation Commission can look into it.

**VII. Adjourn.** Motioned and supported to adjourn at 7:30 P.M.

**Next meeting on Monday, May 8, 2023 in Kaleva at the Community Center.**

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by:

**Linda Cudney  
Secretary, Friends of SMARTrails**



**Friends of SMARTrails**  
**Village of Kaleva former Elementary School**  
**9208 Kauko Street**  
**Kaleva, MI 49645**  
**Monday, May 8, 2023**  
**6:00 PM**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
  1. Roll Call
  
- II. Consent Agenda**
  1. Approval of April 10, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
  2. Treasurers Report and payment of bills.
  
- III. New Business**
  1. Trail maintenance group
  - 2.
  - 3.
  
- IV. Old Business**
  1. Update of Website
  2. EDA Update
  3. Strategic Plan redo
  4. Summer Festivals
  - 5.
  
- V. Other Business**
  1. County Recreation Commission update
  2. Marketing Committee Update
  
- VI. Board Members Comments/Correspondence**
  
- VII. Adjourn**
  
- VIII. Next meeting date: June 12, 2023 ?**

<b><u>2023 Festival Dates</u></b>		
<b>National Trails Day</b>	<b>June 3, 2023</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>Spirit of the Woods Festival</b>	<b>June 17, 2023</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
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<b>Rusty Fish 100</b>	<b>October 14, 2023</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>Chief Day?</b>		
<b>Victorian Festival?</b>		

**Michigan Townships Association**

**Manistee County Chapter**

**Annual Dinner Meeting**

**Norman Township Hall**

**1273 S. Seaman Road**

**Wellston, Michigan**

**Wednesday, May 24, 2023**

**Appetizers at 6:00 PM**

**Dinner served at 6:30 PM**

**MENU**

**Appetizers (Sausage & cheese tray with crackers)**

**Veggie Tray with dip**

**Baked Chicken and Swiss Steak**

**Mashed Potatoes and Gravy**

**Sweet & Sour Cabbage**

**Fresh Asparagus**

**Garden Salad with assorted dressings**

**Roll, Butter, Dessert**

**Punch, Coffee and Water**

**\$18.00 Per Person**

**Payable in Advance**

**Please RSVP by May 17, 2023**

**Linda Cudney at 231 378-2616 or lcudney@aol.com.**

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**Clip and Mail**

**Township of \_\_\_\_\_**

**Board members Attending \_\_\_\_\_**

**Guests Attending \_\_\_\_\_**

**Total Number attending \_\_\_\_\_**

**Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please make all checks payable to MTA Manistee County Chapter**

**Send to: (address below will fit into a windowed envelope)**

**Manistee County Chapter MTA**

**Linda Cudney, Treasurer**

**19708 Cadillac Hwy**

**Copemish MI 49625**

**\*\*\*REVISED\*\*\***

**MTA DATES FOR 2023**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>March 22, 2023</b>	<b>Maple Grove Township</b>	<b>9208 Kauko Street Kaleva</b>
<b>April 26, 2023</b>	<b>Marilla Township</b>	<b>9991 Marilla Road Marilla</b>
<b>May 24, 2023</b>	<b>Norman Township Dinner Meeting Appetizers at 6:00 Dinner at 6:30</b>	<b>1273 S Seaman Road Wellston</b>
<b>June 28, 2023</b>	<b>Manistee Township</b>	<b>410 Holden Street</b>
<b>July 26, 2023</b>	<b>Onkama Township</b>	<b>5435 Main Street Onkama</b>
<b>August 23, 2023</b>	<b>Pleasanton Township</b>	<b>8958 Lumley Road</b>
<b>September 27, 2023</b>	<b>Springdale Township</b>	<b>14492 Glovers Lake Road</b>
<b>October 25, 2023</b>	<b>Stronach Township</b>	<b>2471 Main Street Stronach</b>

**ALL MEETINGS AT 7:00 PM**