



Great Plains Trails Network

GREAT PLAINS TRAILS NETWORK BOARD MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: Jordan M. called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

ROLL CALL: Marybell Avery, Gary Bentrup, Paul Breitzkreutz, Jessica Corman, Mindy Diller, Kerry Eagan, Eli Frank, Jamie Granquist, Marynelle Greene, Rachelle Hadley, Colin Keierleber, Jim Krieger, Jordan Messerer, Dale Minter, John Mlinar, Ashley Nichols, Dena Noe, Roy Rivera, Shelby Robinson, Tedde Taege, Mary Torell, Bill Wehrbein.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Jordan): Approval of November minutes. Paul B. motioned for approval of the minutes and Marynelle G. seconded. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS (Jordan): MoPac Gap agreement has been completed. Susan Rodenburg is taking on the fundraising for this project as an in-kind donation. NTF did not receive the grant to begin the funding for the connector for the Oak Creek Trail.

Lumberyard at the junction of Billy Wolff and MoPac Trail was sold, but the city declined purchasing that land. More to come on this.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Roy): (see attached reports) December was business as usual for financials. They show we are covering our operating expenses. We have a healthy bottom line which includes our short-term CDs. Dena recommended that we move the Trail Trek sponsorship funds directly into a trail project account. Dena made a motion to move those funds on the Operating Expenses line item to the Unrestricted line item. Dena moved and Gary B. seconded. Dale M. motioned to approve the November treasurer's report and Jim K. seconded. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (Tedde): Vanguard proxy vote is due from us in February. Tedde recommended we should vote for it. He is working on more information to share regarding moving forward with the CDs that are coming due in the next few months.

Fundraising (Gary): (See attached document). Gary sent out a year-end report for the Annual Meeting. It's to give an overview of what we raised this year compared to last year. The Prairie Corridor still has a ways to go to meet our goal. Roy will be giving the fundraising report along with the treasurer's report at the Annual Meeting.

Public Relations (Dale): The newsletter went out in mid-December. The next newsletter will come out in Spring (last week of March). Stories he's considering include Trail Trek as

headliner, but then also the Annual Meeting, Tour de Lincoln and Give2Lincoln Day, new board members, Prairie to Prairie event, Lincoln Trail-A-Thon.

Trail Use and Activities Committee (Mary): Tour de Lincoln trail maps are being printed and will be handed out at the annual meeting. Events calendar is confirmed for 2025.

Trail Trek/Lincoln Trail-A-Thon (Dena/Ashley): LTA launched and there are 50 registrations so far, but will keep promoting it. Finalizing the prizes with ScreenInk and boosting promotion with bike shops and other retailers.

Trail Trek is coming together - Pepsi is back as a sponsor and so far we have 2 bikes for the drawing. East HS is secured and City Paperwork is filed. There will be more updates on volunteer needs at the March meeting.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

MoPac Alliance: (Corey): Process summarized by Jordan M, in President's remarks.

Nomination Committee (Rachelle/Shelby): We have filled the five slots that were open as of November 30. John Mlinar has decided to step down from the board due to too many upcoming commitments in 2025. He intends to serve on Trail Trek and volunteer whenever he's available. With John's resignation, we ended up with six open slots. We were able to fill all six slots with some very talented nominees: Ally Williams, Bryan Seck, Dan Lee, Joe Dauer, Madeline Wiseman and Scott Speicher.

Annual/Awards Committee (Mary/Gary): Awards have been completed and a hardcopy invitation has been sent through USPS. Please bring at least one dozen cookies/bars for all to enjoy. Request for tech person at the Annual Meeting.

Motion to adjourn was made by Dale Minter and seconded by Mary T. at 8:09 pm.
Next Meeting is the Annual Meeting, Saturday, February 8 at 1pm at Cornhusker Bank.

Respectfully submitted–
Rachelle Hadley
Secretary