



SWTrails PDX Board Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2022 (via Zoom conference call)

Board Attendance: Don Baack, Brian Brady, Glenn Bridger, Lee Buhler, Laura Campos, Dave Manville, Doug Rogers, Deb Small, Barbara Stedman, Robin Wendlandt.

Guest Attendance: Jason Bergstrom, Ben and Sue Denora, Bill Gallagher, Lucy Garrick, Virginia Hendrickson, Emily Horowitz, Patricia Jewett, Don McCoy.

A quorum was present and the meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Doug Rogers and introductions of those present were made.

Approval of Agenda: Upon motion made by Lee and seconded by Glenn, the Board unanimously approved the agenda for the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion made by Lee and seconded by Don, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the January 27 meeting.

Upcoming Community Events that we should be attending: There are no upcoming meetings to attend in March.

Treasurer's Report: Lee Buhler displayed the SWTrails balance sheet, monthly income statement and fund balances. The total asset balance is \$39,702.81 as of the end of January. The breakdown of the fund balances is as follows:

AARP Bench	\$ 1,000.00
Seymour & 25 th Stairs	\$ 1,515.00
SWTrails General Fund	\$37,187.81
Total	\$39,702.81

Ben Denora asked if we have any other projects that funds are designated for. Don Baack said \$3,000 has been budgeted for treating steps.

Lee also wanted to make us aware that we have changed banks from Umpqua to OnPoint. OnPoint allows us to have more accounts free of charge, keeps check images longer, and is more involved in the local community.

Membership Update: Deb reported the following for Christa Britton who was absent:

New Members Month Ending January 2022

- New Members this month: 8
- Renewing Members this month: 6
- Total Members from fourth quarter 2021 through current month: 70

New Sponsors Month Ending January 2022

- New Sponsors this month: 4
- Renewing Sponsors this month: 4 (1 regular sponsor, 3 continuing monthly subscribers collected January through December)
- 8 total new or renewing Sponsors
- Total Sponsors from fourth quarter 2021 through current month: 28

Donations through January 2022:

- Memberships: \$105
 - Sponsorships: \$1060
- Includes \$385 to be collected February through December
- Total donations YTD: \$1165

All thank you emails have been sent.

Social Media: Barbara Stedman reported SWTrails has the following number of followers: Facebook 984, Instagram 731, Twitter 120.

Monthly walks/hikes update: Dave reported February's 2nd Saturday 6.5 mile hike was well attended with 24-27 people. Don Baack will lead 5.5 mile March hike which starts at food carts and heads up to Council Crest. Due to stairs, it's not stroller-friendly.

Deb reported the 3rd Saturday hike of 3+ miles had 35 walkers – approximately half of whom are new to SWTrails walks/hikes! Most of the walkers are learning about the walk from the Mailchimp email. Sue and Ben attended both hikes and mentioned there were few crossover people on the 2nd and 3rd Saturday hikes. We are definitely hitting different demographics with each type of hike.

Projects, Trail Maintenance and Work Parties:

We had a good turnout at last month's work party in Maricara Park and got a lot of gravel laid. In March we will be working in Gabriel Park to close some social trails and to work on the Nature Loop. Dave put in a few steps in Woods Park as part of the individual volunteer program.

PBOT's Pedestrian Advisory Committee: Deb is part of this city-wide committee for a two year term.

Project Updates: Brian updated us on several projects he has been working on:

Website year in review: 15,170 users visited our SWTrails website last year with over 25,000 sessions. Visits decreased a bit since we have not published any new self-led hikes recently.

Hike Protocol Survey: Brian will present more detail during the March meeting, but the six main takeaways from the survey are below:

1. Seek to gain more diversity (age and ethnicity) among SWTrails hike participants.
2. Starting place varies.
3. Add a third hike (4-5 miles).
4. Add more self-led hikes (popular and in demand).
5. Data supports our current configuration of 5-7 miles and 2-4 miles.
6. Accentuate “Explore” and “Exercise” as key components of our hikes.

PBOT’s SW walking map update: PBOT is going to update their walking map for SW Portland and we made route recommendations of three major updates.

1. Segment 1 (Riverview Cemetery) TBD
2. Segments 51, 5b, 5c and 5d = Red Electric Trail
3. Segments 12a and 12b = Hillsdale to Lake Oswego Trail

Urban trail sign inventory: Hans, who has been in charge of our SWTrails signs for several years, will be moving to Los Angeles in the next several months. Brian is working on an app that will allow us to log the location and condition of each of our 600+ SWTrails signs. This will bring all the signage information into one document and will be of immense help to those who work on the signage project in the future. When the app is complete, Brian will meet with interested volunteers to standardize the recording process.

In order to record that a sign has been added to the inventory, Brian proposed putting a sticker on that sign. The details of the sticker will be decided at a later date. **Upon motion made by Deb and seconded by Don Baack, the Board unanimously approved to allocate \$300 for the purchase of inventory stickers.** Don Baack also suggested that when a sign is inventoried, we provide each volunteer with a kit to remove any graffiti before the sticker is applied.

Advocates Corner: SW Twombly Ave. project: permit and treating steps: Don Baack mentioned we will get our permit for the Twombly steps project on March 3 and the first work party scheduled is scheduled for March 13. There will be ongoing work on the steps for the next few months.

Letter of support for improved connection for Trail #1, Whitaker/Terwilliger: We agreed to support another letter with the Homestead neighborhood, Friends of Terwilliger and Friends of Marquam Nature Park asking that the City accept money from OHSU to improve the trail from Barbur up to Terwilliger. This includes steel stairs from Barbur up to the house on Whitaker. Also, construction will begin in the next six months for the crossing of Naito from Terwilliger.

Approval of Oregon funding application: Upon motion made by Don Baack and seconded by Deb, the submission of the funding request to secure \$103,198 from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund for SWTrails' portion of the Hillsdale to Lake Oswego Trail (Trail 6) was approved.

SW Corridor update: Metro sent a letter saying the Red Electric Trail is one of the six projects (as well as the Columbia Crossing) included in the Biden administrations funds they will receive. Don Baack will write a letter to Earl Blumenauer to make sure we get the connections for the Red Electric trail.

Tracking PBOT's *SW in Motion* (SWIM) project efforts: Don will meet with the PBOT team to talk about specific projects on the list so we know when they are going to involve the public. There needs to be citizen input to effect projects on the front end, specifically with the Bertha Blvd Pedestrian Shared Street and Neighborhood Greenway.

Upon motion made by Deb, seconded by Don and approved unanimously, the Monthly Board meeting was closed.

Upon motion made by Deb and seconded by Don, the Annual Meeting was opened by President Doug Rogers.

Annual Meeting: Introduction and review of 2021

Doug Rogers reported that SWTrails volunteers logged over 3000+ hours of work in 2021. We are most proud of the monthly hikes we offer to the community, and both the Red Electric Bridge and Hillsdale to Lake Oswego Trail are becoming a reality.

Election of Board members for upcoming terms: Deb announced the nominations for five open Board positions: Don Baack, Laura Campos, Doug Rogers, Dave Manville, Robin Wendlandt.

Upon motion made by Don Baack, seconded by Deb and passed unanimously, nominations for Board members were closed.

Deb asked if the Members accepted the nominated Board members by acclamation and they were unanimously accepted.

Membership dues for the following year: Upon motion made by Don, seconded by Barbara and approved unanimously, SWTrails PDX resolves that the 2022 suggested membership fee is \$10

Ratify the budget for 2022: Lee presented the budget for 2022. Upon motion made by Don Baack, seconded by Glenn and approved unanimously the budget for 2022 was ratified.

Election of Officers to Board for 2022: Deb announced the nominations for officers are: President, Doug Rogers; Vice President, Secretary, Robin Wendlandt. Upon motion made by Deb, seconded by Don and approved unanimously, the above officers were elected to the Board of SWTrails by acclamation.

Last Minute Announcements: There were no last minute announcements.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for Thursday, March 24, 2022.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

-Respectfully submitted by Robin Wendlandt, Secretary, SWTrails PDX