



SWTrails PDX Board Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2022 (via Zoom conference call)

Board Attendance: Don Baack, Brian Brady, Glenn Bridger, Lee Buhler, Dave Manville, Doug Rogers, Deb Small, Hans Steuch, Robin Wendlandt.

Guest Attendance: Virginia Hendrickson, Ben Denora, Don McCoy, Meg Cummins.

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: An agenda item regarding the Hike Protocol Survey was added. Upon motion made by Lee and seconded by Hans, the Board unanimously approved the agenda for the meeting as amended.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion made by Don Baack and seconded by Glenn, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the February 24 meeting. It should be noted that in the February 24 meeting, the Board approved \$300 for the stickers for the SWTrails signage inventory, but we subsequently decided not to pursue the stickers.

Upcoming Community Events that we should be attending: Metro is having their quarterly trails forum on April 13 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. The meeting link can be found on Metro's website.

There was a short discussion about applying for upcoming grants. Don Baack suggested we have one person in the group who knows the grant application process and can become an expert at it. Deb will consider taking the lead on grant applications. Deb thinks we should have a particular project in mind before we apply for a grant. Don Baack believes we should look at all potential grant opportunities, and if we get the funding, we devise a project. Dave has information about the American Trails Grant Association and Brian has some information on the Portland Clean Energy Community Benefit Fund and will pass that on to Deb.

Treasurer's Report: Lee Buhler displayed the SWTrails balance sheet, monthly income statement and fund balances. The total asset balance is \$40,627.04 as of the end of February. The breakdown of the fund balances is as follows:

Restricted Net Assets:	
AARP Bench	\$ 1,000.00
Seymour & 25 th Stairs	\$ 1,515.00
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$38,112.04
Total	\$40,627.04

Don Baack has volunteered to help Lee with the audit after Hans moves to Los Angeles. Hans will be sorely missed by us as he has been involved with SWTrails for 10 years. Hans has also done a lot of work on the Coronado Trail and will send a link recapping the project and work he has done.

Don Baack has the necessary permits and has started work on the Twombly stairs.

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

New Members Month Ending February 2022

- New Members this month: 6
- Renewing Members this month: 3
- Total Members from fourth quarter 2021 through current month: 83

New Sponsors Month Ending February 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: 32

Donations through February 2022:

- Memberships: \$255
- Sponsorships: \$1610
- Total donations YTD: \$1865

All thank you emails have been sent.

Social Media: No report tonight as Barbara is on vacation.

Monthly walks/hikes update:

Hike protocol survey update: An official report has been created to record the results of our recent survey to see if we are continuing to meet the needs of our community. The report is in OneDrive and will eventually be posted on the website.

2nd Saturday Hike: Dave reported that last month Don Baack led a four mile hike for about 24 people. April's hike will be led by Dave and will be about 6.5 miles starting at Pendleton Park.

3rd Saturday Hike: Deb reported that last month about 14 hikers braved a cold and rainy day. She will lead April's hike of about 4 miles which will start at Garden Home Park.

Projects, Trail Maintenance and Work Parties:

The usual first Thursday work party hosted by PPR will be at Hamilton Park. Project includes repairing trails, drainage improvement and closing a few social trails. May and June's work parties will be at SWTrails 6 in Marshall Park.

SWTrails website update for new "Community Events" section: Deb and Brian have added a Community Events section to the home page of our website where we can assist the community with spreading their news. This month we have a link to a survey to rename the swimming pool at Ida B. Wells High School. On a separate note, Don Baack will send information to post about the April 2 clean-up at Wells High School.

Projects updates:

--Hans and Brian shared the history of our efforts to maintain PBOT's brown SWTrails street route signs. Hans recapped how he learned the ins and outs of the project 10 years ago, and how it changed from a paper based system to the Survey 123 App that Brian has developed. We thank Hans for his hard work and dedication to this project over the years, and also applaud Brian for developing an app that can capture all the important details and take us into the next decade. Brian shared the dashboard for the Survey 123 App and walked us through some of the data. He recently trained seven Board Members how to use the app to inventory each sign, and we will start collecting data on April 11.

-- Riverview Cemetery trail routes update: Brian is working on a route update through the cemetery for the SW Portland walking map that will accommodate the needs of the cemetery. The cemetery graciously lets the public use their roads for walking and biking.

Advocates Corner:

--Hillsdale to Lake Oswego Trail state funding application update: Don Baack has reached out to Senator Wagner regarding the funding for this trail. The funds may not now be available. Don Baack is frustrated and disappointed, but will keep trying to sort out what is going on.

Activities in project to be funded:

1. Repair a portion on SW 19th from Moss to Capitol Hill Road
2. Build a portion of trail on Tryon Creek Park property
3. Develop a website describing the details of the trail
4. Begin the coordination of the design, acquisition, installation of trail signage

Critical Projects for SWTrails in the Coming Months: Doug discussed the importance of the Red Electric Bridge Project/SW Bertha Neighborhood Greenway and the Red Electric Trail Project.

--The Red Electric Bridge will be completed in the next 3-4 months. Doug emphasized the importance of having the Bertha Neighborhood Greenway completed when the bridge is completed. Don Baack suggested that Deb and her neighbors take the lead with PBOT on the traffic calming projected on little Bertha.

--We want to assist PPR with the planning/development of the Red Electric Trail. Doug contacted Nick Falbo with SWIM, and he should be available later in the spring to speak to us about PBOT's efforts in SW Portland. We will set aside an hour time slot during an upcoming Board meeting for him to share their plans.

--Don Baack also mentioned that the Rose Lane Bus Project doesn't make sense for SWTrails and the Hillsdale neighborhood. Pedestrian safety is a priority and will be negatively impacted, and Hillsdale businesses will also be negatively impacted. He wants this idea killed now. The Hillsdale Neighborhood Association meets on April 6 and Representative Lisa Reynolds, Representative Dacia Grayber and Commissioner Sharon Meieran will be attending to hear comments.

Last Minute Announcements: Don reminded us to go to the website to take the survey to rename the pool.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for Thursday, April 28, 2022.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm

--Respectfully submitted by **Robin Wendlandt, SWTrails PDX Secretary**