



# SWTrails PDX Board Meeting Minutes (*DRAFT 1*)

April 28, 2022 (via Zoom conference call)

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

**Guest Attendance:** Christa Britton, Ben Denora, Virginia Hendrickson

A quorum was present and the meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Doug Rogers and introductions of those present were made.

**Approval of Agenda:** Upon motion made by Don and seconded by Deb, the Board unanimously approved the agenda for the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** Upon motion made by Dave and seconded by Hans, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the March 24 meeting.

**Upcoming Community Events that we should be attending:** Portland Parks Foundation is hosting their annual Friends and Allies Summit on May 12 at the Laurelhurst Club. The keynote speaker will be Gabe Sheoships, Executive Director of Friends of Tryon Creek. There will also be a Day of Service at Gabriel Park with Friends of Gabriel Park on May 6.

Don asked if we could appoint a chair for our involvement in Multnomah Days. Don/Doug to send an email to ask for a volunteer.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lee Buhler displayed the SWTrails balance sheet, monthly income statement and fund balances. The total asset balance is \$39,137.56 as of the end of March. Last month, we discussed changing banks. The change will take a bit longer than anticipated due to the direct deposit links from PayPal, Amazon, Benevity, etc. that we currently have in place and they will need to be changed.

Lee prepared our state and federal tax returns and will them file online. Don asked where the copies of our tax returns are stored. Lee stores them on OneDrive. Don wants to make sure we have a list of who has passwords to our various accounts. He requested that we put this on the agenda for June or July. Hans then explained the annual auditing process of our finances to oversee the work Lee does.

There was discussion about what financial information we should post online (tax returns, budgets, etc.). Deb stated that we only have an obligation to post what is required by our federal 501(c)(3) status (form #990), which is available to the public. We need to have a discussion to determine what we other items would benefit our relationship with our community supporters.

**Membership Update:** Christa reported the following “official” dues paying members --  
**New Members Month Ending March 2022**

--New Members this month: 3

--Renewing Members this month: 4

--Total Members from fourth quarter 2021 through current month: 91

**New Sponsors Month Ending March 2022**

--New Sponsors this month: 0

--Renewing Sponsors this month: 1

--1 total new or renewing Sponsors

--Total Sponsors from fourth quarter 2021 through current month: 33

**Donations through March 2022:**

--Memberships: \$415

--Sponsorships: \$1710

--Total donations YTD: \$2125.

All “thank you” emails have been sent.

**Social Media:** Barbara Stedman reported SWTrails has the total number of followers on social media: *Facebook* 1012, *Instagram* 760, *Twitter* 125.

**Approval of Fiscal Sponsorship of Eena (Beaver) Festival:**

Laura is managing this event that drew approximately 200 people last year. She and Glenn have reviewed the details of the project, and they will finish the project approval document so the Board can officially approve fiscal sponsorship of the Festival. The Festival will be Saturday, September 24 from noon-3:00 p.m. at the *Multnomah Arts Center* and celebrates indigenous culture, ecosystems and learning about the non-human ecological superhero, the beaver. It also hopes to promote access to the outdoors for BIPOC students.

Laura secured funding from the Clean Energy Community Benefits fund, and they need insurance information before finalizing their funding. Don will send Glenn our insurance contact so Glenn can send the information on.

**Monthly walks/hikes update:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday walk: April’s hike drew about 20 people for a 6.3 mile hike. Ben will lead hike for May, which will follow the SWTrails Self-Led Hike #4 route for a hike of 5.5 miles.

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday walk: Deb led another successful hike in April, and Lee has volunteered to lead May's hike. Deb will be out of the country in June so we need a volunteer to lead that hike

Brian and Deb created a summary report of our recent SWTrails survey which will be posted to the website.

### **Projects, Trail Maintenance and Work Parties:**

April's snow event resulted in over 700 trees falling in Portland parks – the majority were in Forest Park. Dave has personally cleared many downed trees in SW Portland parks. May's work parties will be in Marshall Park on SWTrails #6 from Maplecrest to SW 11<sup>th</sup>. There is lots of work to be done on this section of trail.

With Hans moving to Los Angeles in June, all of the SWTrails signs and hardware now reside in Dave's garage.

Dave quickly reviewed the list of SWTrails projects. He will update the list as some projects have now been completed, or moved to an inactive status. Don reported that half of the SW Twombly street steps have now been completed.

### **Projects update / Brian**

-- New maintenance inventory of PBOT's SWTrails street route signs project report: We have recently started on this project and will have the status of more signs inventoried by the next Board meeting.

-- Our website helped the Hillsdale community by hosting the "Name the Wilson Pool" survey. Preliminary results show "Hillsdale Pool" is the most popular choice for the new name.

**Review of PBOT's Southwest in Motion (SWIM) community planning effort:** Doug reminded everyone to look over the August 2019, 66-page report, *Southwest in Motion*, posted on PBOT's website prior to our May 26 Board meeting. Our guest speaker will be Nick Falbo, Senior Transportation Planner at PBOT, and this is a rare opportunity for us to ask him about the report.

Don mentioned that part of our discussion with Nick is to identify the projects we want to be involved in, and Don advised us to not assume that everything in the report will be done. Don wants to meet with a few Board members prior to this meeting in order to make the most of our time with him.

### **Advocates Corner:**

Consideration of supporting SWNI's letter to Joann Hardesty, Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners requesting a delay of the implementation of the **Rose Lane Project** in Hillsdale. The letter is below:

*"SWNI notes that the SWIM project called for a study of the bus changes in the Hillsdale Town Center.*

*The small businesses of Hillsdale cannot afford to lose business after the devastating losses of the past 2 years. A 3-5 year trial period as proposed by the Rose Lane project is economically not feasible for our small businesses.*

*Our transportation network in SW is very different from that of the rest of Portland with few alternative streets and virtually none of our streets involved in the Capitol Hwy Rose lane project have sidewalks.*

*Therefore, SWNI requests:*

*The City of Portland delay for 3 years the instituting a 6 month pilot of the Capitol Highway Rose Lane Project until:*

- 1. The businesses of Hillsdale have established a normal level of business from which to confidently document the anticipated impact of the reduction in Capitol Highway Traffic on business activity.*
- 2. That prior to beginning the pilot project, vehicle volume and speed data be collected on the arterial and local streets the HNA/HBPA believes will be affected by the pilot project and collect similar data during the pilot project.*
- 3. Prior to the start of a pilot project PBOT model the post Covid impact of traffic on Capitol Highway from Barbur to Sunset using base data Capitol Hwy data collected between Terwilliger and Sunset and do the same for Terwilliger north and southbound during the pilot Project document the actual traffic changes.*
- 4. That bus ridership for all lines traveling westbound from Terwilliger during evening rush hour immediately prior to the implementation of the pilot project be documented and the same data be collected at the conclusion of the pilot project. Document actual rush hour delays for before and at conclusion of the pilot project.*
- 5. That criteria for judging the success of them pilot project be jointly developed by business, community members, bus rider, PBOT and TriMet prior to the implementation of the pilot project.*
- 6. At the conclusion of the pilot project the same group assess the results of the pilot project and recommend further steps including mitigation of identified issues.”*

A lengthy discussion ensued wondering if SWTrails should be involved in this issue since to some it's a "transportation" issue rather than a SWTrails issue. Other Board members felt we didn't have enough time to understand and research the *Rose Lane Project*. Don stated this was discussed at a meeting in January 2020 with the Board and has emails giving he and Glenn permission to testify before City Council against this idea, which they did because it would effect pedestrian safety in the Hillsdale area.

**Upon motion made by Don and seconded by Lee, the Board approved to support SWNI's position of requesting the City of Portland delay for three years the instituting of a six-month pilot of the Capitol Highway *Rose Lane Project* until the items above can be addressed.”** The vote was Yes=6 votes; No=2 votes; and two Board members abstained.

**Last Minute Announcements:** This was more than likely Han's last Board Meeting with SWTrails before his family's move to Los Angeles in June (where his daughter lives). Again, we can't thank him enough for his service to this group over the last ten years. You will be greatly missed, Hans!

**Next Meeting:** Scheduled for Thursday, May 26, 2022.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm

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