

FORC Board Meeting

May 2nd, 2022

The following Board members were present:

Aaron G	President
Zachary B	Vice President
Mandy G	Race Director
Drew H	Web Director, Trail Steward for Illiniwek/Dorrance
Dave B	Secretary

Also present were Brad M (Trail Steward for SCP), Shannon G (First Lady) and Ben G.

No treasurer's report was available as Glen is out of town. Aaron reported there is little change from last month's report.

Drew discussed the status of the website, which is no longer working correctly after the host updated their software, making it incompatible with the software used for our site. No easy solution presents itself; significant effort will be required to resolve the issue.

Aaron reported FORC has been asked to sponsor a high school MTB team. While the request is well intentioned we simply don't do that. The school should turn to local businesses for sponsorship. The Board held a discussion on what our support for a school MTB team would look like; in the end no decisions were made.

Mandy reported there is meeting this coming Wednesday (May the 4th, i.e., Star Wars Day) at 1230 to allow organizations to present ideas for celebrating the completion of the I-74 bridge (the foot/bike path was recently completed).

Next Mandy reported on preparations for the ScoCoPa Frenzy, scheduled for May 15th. The food truck we had scheduled backed out so we need a new one. Several suggestions were offered; Mandy will call these vendors. A route for the race has not been finalized; Mandy asked Brad for help in that area. We are planning to perform route setup Saturday the 14th at 4:00 p.m. Aaron is planning to camp in SCP that evening. Mandy has trophy blanks cut, ready for finishing. Stickers are ordered and she plans on ordering shirts Tuesday the 3rd. Mandy is asking for volunteers and passed out a sheet.

Lastly for Mandy, she led a discussion on preparations for FORC's 25th anniversary celebration, set for June. There is a cookout scheduled for Sunday, June 12th at the SCP Hickory Hills pavilion, at which we will serve pulled pork and encourage attendees to bring a dish to share. Because we are under a pavilion that will occur regardless of weather. We will host two group rides at two different parks on Saturday the 11th, plus a night ride at SCP that evening. Brad will work with SCP managers to ensure we have permission for the night ride.

Aaron moved on to discuss trail status. Most systems are closed due to wet weather so not much to report in that vein. Ongoing projects at the various parks engendered good discussion:

- Yesterday (the 1st) a trail day at Sunderbruch was very successful, in that most of the new trail was cut. Sunderbruch has a budget of \$2000, thanks to donations from local residents who want to see the good work at the park continue. Brian K (trail steward) needs some lumber to support his work; Board members shared their ideas as to where to get good lumber at the lowest cost.
- Brad plans to put in a berm bridge and continue the work at Area 51. He also needs to put boardwalk over additional we areas on Canon Loop before the Frenzy; Dave and Brad will perform that work Wednesday.
- Drew is working on repairing the wood berms at Illiniwek. He will need additional greentreat lumber. The berms are in overall good shape considering their age.

Aaron reported Glen ordered the new trailer on April 22nd. It has a six to eight week lead time. After ScoCoPa Frenzy Aaron plans to remove the equipment from the borrowed trailer and store said equipment until the new trailer arrives. The group will build shelves, etc, in the new trailer as soon as we have it in hand.

Aaron noted our insurance does not cover liability for the Board or its members. Such insurance costs about \$450/year. Following discussion the Board agreed to purchase this insurance.

At the Trail Steward meeting held last month Drew committed to investigating whether our insurance covers chain saws. He learned it does, for both FORC and privately owned saws, providing users are trained and don proper PPE while using the equipment. Following discussion the Board agreed to purchase a new chain saw. Aaron will notify Glen, Drew will purchase the saw.

To conclude the Board meeting, Aaron led a discussion of issues which have been noted at Dog Park. Aaron has received multiple complaints regarding features at the park; he toured the park and brought photographs of items he'd noted. For example:

- Multiple features and signs permanently attached to standing trees
- A feature which uses PVC piping for support
- A wall ride which has no provisions for entrance/exit (essentially a vertical curved wall on flat ground)
- A ramp which is using carpet to hold down the dirt

In addition, Aaron learned the City of Davenport did not give permission for use of a mini excavator last year (which the Board approved in August with admonishments to get City permission first).

Aaron noted this is an issue with the Board providing money to a Trail Steward but providing no other guidance or assistance (with the notable exception of not attaching features to standing trees, this guidance has been provided in the past but has been forgotten or ignored). He indicated we need to show up to trail days at this park and render assistance.

Following discussion Aaron will contact the City of Davenport and schedule a walkthrough of the park with them to get guidance/clarification on whether the features and building techniques meet their standards. We will then work with the Trail Steward to repair identified issues, and to bring trail features up to FORC standards.

The Board wants to reiterate to Trail Stewards the importance of working with land managers when developing trails and features.

In total 13 members attended the Membership Meeting following the board meeting.

The next Board meeting will be June 6th, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. with the membership meeting to start immediately following at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Bowman, Secretary.