

FORC Board Meeting

September 11th, 2023

The following Board members were present:

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

Also present were Andrew N, Trail Steward for Sunderbruch and Josh W, Trail Steward for Sylvan Island.

Aaron asked Glen for a Treasurer's Report. Glen reported FORC has \$36,740 in the bank. The largest expense in the last 30-40 days was for the signs Glen showcased at last month's meeting, almost \$1000 (\$680 at Sunderbruch, \$300 at SCP). Otherwise we spent about \$300 purchasing lumber for use at SCP. Upcoming large expense is only our annual insurance payment in December. Aaron asked whether we have purchased insurance for Officers and Board members. Following discussion Glen took an action to contact our insurance carrier and add liability insurance for the Officers and Board members. Glen will report the cost of this additional insurance, estimated to cost around \$500, to the Board.

Dave B asked whether the Board has liability at Westbrook as there is an individual, not a Trail Steward or even a paying member of FORC, who is cutting trail and making other changes at that park. FORC cannot keep someone off any of our trail systems; that authority lies with the individual Land Managers with whom we work. Following discussion, Dave B will draft a letter to this individual, with a copy to the City of DeWitt Parks Department, explaining why persons performing trail maintenance are to be FORC members only. Aaron and Dave will sign this letter before it's sent off.

Aaron asked for trail reports:

Westbrook: Dave B reported he closed off the new trail (which was rerouted by the aforementioned individual) as directed at last month's Board meeting. We will let that trail grow back in and cut in clean trail later.

Sylvan Island: Josh reported the trails are in good overall condition, especially after the last trail day. The shingle bridge, which moved during spring flooding, has yet to be repaired or replaced. Various options to replace this bridge were discussed. No decision was made; Josh will present his best option(s) to the Board at an upcoming meeting and a decision made at that time. Aaron reported the engineering for the pavilion is finally approved; we will have a permit as soon as the Moline permit person returns to work (off sick). We will immediately begin construction once the permit is received. Josh later reported he hosts a Group Ride every Monday at 5:30 p.m. on the Island.

Illiniwek/Dorrance: Drew reported the trails are dry (perhaps alleviated by today's rain) and there is a tree down at Illiniwek he's not had time to address. He reports the berm work will be completed this year.

Sunderbruch: Andy reported he's looking to reroute portions of Rock Cut to include more turns. He also needs a good supply of rough cut lumber to repair woodwork at the park. Lastly he expressed concern over erosion at the first creek crossing on LT. This erosion has left very little room for the trail and a significant bridge is required, with about 15 to 20 foot of elevation required. Various options for this bridge were discussed.

Stephens: Trails are in decent shape. The individual who takes care of this park does not want the designation of "Trail Steward".

SCP: There is significant construction in progress around Pride Lake. The main parking lot at the trail head has been expanded and it appears the gravel lot across the street will be paved. A hard path completely encircling Pride Lake is being constructed. Part of this construction impacts our singletrack to Tarmac. The Rangers have not indicated whether we'll be able to use part of this new path to get to Tarmac. If not we can reroute as there is space available to do so.

Mandy briefed the group on upcoming events:

Taming of the Slough is Saturday, September 16th

Volunteers are needed for this event. Setup is 0730; the race starts at 0800 and the whole event should be done by 1100 with an afterparty at Bass Street Landing. Several in attendance volunteered their services for Saturday.

FORC Enduro is Saturday, September 30th. This year's Enduro starts at Westbrook Park.

Dave B asked about an endurance race on October 8th as we previously reserved the pavilion at Westbrook for that date. That event will not be held this year; Dave took an action to cancel the reservation. Aaron took an action to speak with SCP rangers about holding this event at that park next year.

Mandy and Aaron also discussed this year's Copper Harbor trip and preparations for next year's trip. Anyone who thinks they may be interested in this trip should contact Mandy or Aaron now and get their names on the list for rooms. This year 36 FORC members visited Copper Harbor.

In total 24 individuals attended the Membership Meeting following the board meeting.

The next Board meeting will be October 2nd, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. with the membership meeting to start immediately following at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Bowman, Secretary.