

**SIMON KENTON PATHFINDERS**  
**Minutes from Membership Meeting @ Urbana Depot**  
**Thursday, November 7, 2024, @ 7:00 p.m.**

The monthly meeting was called to order by President Jim Cook at 7:03 p.m.

**Attendance:** Kent Myers, Rob Dwyer, Dorothy Case, Eliah Smith, Steve Cayot, Doug George, Dave Jensen, Teresa Cook, Nancy Baldwin, Brian Newman, Dave Martin, Ward Lutz, Carmen Scott, Doug Crabill, Joe Curran, Jim Cook, and Dianne Burroughs.

**Additions/Corrections to the Agenda:** A motion to accept the agenda as presented was made by Ward Lutz, seconded by Dave Jensen, and it passed unanimously.

**Announcements:** Many thanks to the West Liberty/Salem High School students who cleaned up the north trail from Carter Avenue to the Depot on October 25. As part of their Community Service Day activities, they collected a good 10 bags of trash.

**Reports:**

**President:** No report was given.

**Secretary:** With no meeting being held in October due to the lack of a quorum, the minutes of the September 5 meeting were presented. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Dave Jensen, seconded by Nancy Baldwin, and it passed unanimously.

**Treasurer:** Rob Dwyer reported that SKP is in very good shape, financially, and the September 30 Johnson \$10K donation will be reclassified as a bike tour donation. A motion to approve both the August and September "Balance Sheet" and "Profit & Loss" reports was made by Doug Crabill, seconded by Brian Newman, and it passed unanimously.

**Website:** No report was given.

**Facebook:** Tamisha Matus was unable to attend due to a recent foot surgery, but Jim Cook reported that she is keeping our FB account up-to-date.

**Maintenance:**

Trail counter update: Ward Lutz shared our counter data collected through October 24. There are nine counters currently deployed on the bike trail from Carter Avenue in Bellefontaine to County Line Road in Champaign County: three in Logan and six in Champaign. The counter at College Way in Urbana was stolen sometime in April and will need to be replaced, as we have almost seven years of valuable accumulated data for this counter.

North Trail: Steve Cayot reported that the trail looks the best he's ever seen. Graffiti is still an issue on the bridge overpass, though. A year ago, three girl scout troops took 3-½ hours to paint over the graffiti, and recently it was done again, this time by two Bellefontaine teachers, Angie Horvath and Cindy Stonerock, and eight NHS students.

A concrete pad will be poured before winter for the Eric Evans sign and bench at Herr Road. In 2019 we received a \$5000 donation for this project.

Some 13-year-old boys riding gas motorized bikes were hit by a car and had to be care fledged.

Urbana City: Dave Jensen reported that the trail will be blown off once more this week. A new LED light in the basement will be installed this month to replace the one damaged by the Depot's coffee brew leak. Murals on the lower trail were repainted this past weekend. A member reported that Orbitz wants the bike trail to be extended to their storage facility on State Route 29, but Jim Cook said this would be have to be a city project.

South Trail: Dorothy Case reported that the trail looks very nice. Brian Newman said it will probably need one more mowing and blowing this year.

Depot Area: Dave Jensen has been replacing the basement lights with LEDs. We still have junk in the basement and cleaning should be done before the end of the year.

Other committee news:

Nominations for 2025 – We have five open positions: one Board member (3-year term), Treasurer (2-year term), President-Elect (3 years), President (2 years), and Past-President (1 year). Two Board members and the Secretary are not up for election. Dorothy Case is going off the board. A committee of four are working on finding candidates for these open positions. A Board Zoom meeting is needed.

**Action Items:** January is our reorganizational meeting. A motion to set this meeting for January 2, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. was made by Dave Jensen, seconded by Rob Dwyer, and it passed unanimously. A motion to have members bring light refreshments prior to the meeting, at 6:00 p.m., was made by Nancy Baldwin, seconded by Doug Crabill, and it passed unanimously.

**New Business:** None was presented.

**Old Business:**

Paving the North Trail: There have been many Zoom calls between both counties, cities, SKP, LUC, and Clark CTC regarding the 17 miles of pavement overlay needed. ODOT has TAP money available which could pay 100% of the cost. If a grant is awarded, it is still undecided which organization would administer it.

Ad Hoc committee for Carter Avenue upgrades: Melody Cushman is working on this and has raised over \$16K of the \$225K funds needed for this project. Jim Cook suggested that we should all help by requesting funding from corporations and individuals. Checks should be made out to SKP and marked for the Carter Avenue Project at Citizens Federal. We have enough money now for the shelter. 100 people attended the dedication of the Carmen Scott Trailhead on October 25. SKP will probably agree to pay for the bike repair station.

Bike Tour 2024: An updated informational sheet of our sponsorships, income, and registrations was shared (revised 10/1/24). A tour review meeting was held on September 23. Next year's tour will be our twenty-fifth annual tour and will be held on September 7, 2025.

**Open Forum:** Joe Curran shared that the Urbana Airport Museum would like to join up with our bike trail.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made at 8:18 p.m. by Dave Jensen, seconded by Brian Newman, and it passed unanimously.

**Next meeting: Thursday, January 2, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. (6:00 pot luck).**

A Board Zoom meeting is set for Tuesday, November 19, at 3:00 p.m., to discuss the newsletter, Volunteer of the Year candidates, elections, and other loose sends.

Respectfully submitted by Dianne Burroughs, Secretary.