

Jefferson City Trail Users

Notes from the February 9, 2022 Zoom Meeting

Attending: Brandy Bergthold, Jane Lester, Mike Lester, Lori Henley, Celeste Koon, D'Arcy Graham, Kathleen Henley, Rick Thom

1. Kathleen Henley reported the Treasury has a balance of \$288.42. She completed the federal tax filing for Jefferson City Trail Users and will do the state tax filing later when it is required.
2. There are currently 475 members in the Facebook group.
3. The Get Acquainted hike on the Bicentennial Bridge and Adrian's Island (which would have been more like a get together) was cancelled due to weather on February 6, 2022. It may be rescheduled or held as an impromptu event—Flash Stroll?—at some point. The March 12 Get Acquainted hike will be a 4-mile out and back hike on the Moon Loop trail just north of the Columbia airport. Meet at the commuter lot on the east side of Highway 54 at 1:00 pm, or at the trailhead at 1:30 pm.
4. Frog Hollow trail work will be held on Sunday afternoon, February 20 and again on March 20. The time will be announced after Celeste checks with Kevin Schwartz with city Parks. More work than usual may be planned and more details about the tools to bring will be announced later. If the weather is too bad, or the trail is too soft, the trail work might be cancelled. Call or text 573-644-3199 if you have questions. A Greenberry trail work session may also be planned later.
5. Another Trails Less Travelled Challenge is planned, with participants doing 22 miles during May, June, and July of 2022. Planning and coordination with city parks staff has started and the Trail Users Group will be doing more in March. The kickoff will be May 1 again.
6. Kathleen generated QR codes for the trails at Binder and Kevin Schwartz printed and laminated them. They have been put on sign posts. The new signs on the trails there will also be installed soon.
7. The April city council elections were discussed. Celeste called the group's attention to the fact that some current council members want to take away approximately \$200,000 a year from the Parks budget for the foreseeable future. Over the years this will be a lot of money removed for city administrative tasks, and a lot of money that will not be spent on city parks maintenance and improvements. The vote several years ago to fund city parks with a sales tax had language that the money was supposed to be used only for parks. So the proposal from a couple of council members appears to contradict the intended use of the money. The proposal did not pass in the Council's last budget, but is certain to be brought up again this year. All members of the Trail Users group are urged to ask questions

about a candidate's position on financial support for Parks in deciding who to vote for in April.

8. Those attending the meeting reviewed and provided suggestions on a list of the group's accomplishments during the membership year that started on April 1, 2021. Celeste will send the list out in March when asking people to renew their \$15 annual membership.

9.. The next meeting date will be March 9, 2022 at 5:00 pm. The meeting will be by Zoom if Covid is still a big concern, or at Last Flight Brewing Co.