

GREAT PLAINS TRAILS NETWORK

Jane Snyder Trail Center, 15 June 2020

**CALL TO ORDER**GPTN President Greg Rosenboom called the meeting to order on Zoom at 7:14 pm.

**ROLL CALL**Attending: Dale Arp, Gary Bentrup, Noel Briseno, Parks Coble, Doug Dittman, Charlene Dunbar, Steve Dunbar, Sue Ferguson, Eli Frank, Corey Godfrey, Marynelle Greene, Elaine Hammer, Jim Krieger, Jordan Messerer, Jered Morris, Dena Noé, Ann Ringlein, Shelby Robinson, Ray Stevens, Jr., Denise Teahon, Bob Torell, Mary Torell, Bill Wehrbein, Ken Winston.

Not in Attendance: Marybell Avery, Rachelle Hadley, Kent Henning, Jesse Petersen, Jamie Warren.

Guest: Lynn Johnson, Lincoln Parks and Recreation

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
**Minutes of the May board meeting were approved.** **TREASURER'S REPORT**Treasurer’s report distributed digitally. Ferguson reported that net income for May was $7376.29. **Motion by Noé seconded by B. Torell to accept report was approved.**

 **DISCUSSION OF LEASE**Lynn Johnson explained the rental agreement with Dittman and the Hub: Parks and Recreation had imagined that the JSTC would become a community rental space for the city, but has found it underutilized. The one-year lease of the space to Dittman is designed to encourage wider use of the facility as one-stop rental space for family/wedding/business receptions with food and beverages. The city continues to own the JSTC, but scheduling will be done through the Hub instead of Parks and Rec. Events that had been held in the space before pandemic closings are expected to continue as before. The addition of outside dining space represents an amendment in the Hub’s lease agreement with Parks and Rec, and will allow the Hub to increase seating capacity during the current pandemic, as well asl provide opportunity to extend future activities at the JSTC to the outdoors.

Besides tables and chairs, a fence is required to enclose outdoor venues serving alcoholic beverages. Using left over Union Plaza funds Parks and Rec has ordered seven tables and 28 chairs, which are expected to arrive in two months. Dittman will raise the funds for the semi-permanent fence, which will become the property of Parks and Rec. He hopes that GPTN will provide the remainder of their funds raised to create the JSTC.

Dittman left the meeting so that discussion could ensue.

**Hammer moved Winston seconded that funds ($9100.45) remaining in the NTF account earmarked for the Jayne Snyder Trail Center be sent to the Parks Foundation for the purchase of fencing adjacent to the JSTC. Approved.**

Dittman returned.

Johnson reported that Parks and Rec staff had suggested that the new bridge connecting Rock Island and Jamaica North Trails be named the “Great Plains Trails Network Connector”, recognizing GPTN’s significant involvement in raising funds for Lincoln’s trail system for more than thirty years. Would GPTN agree to be so honored? Yes! The naming decision must pass the parks advisory board and city council before becoming official. In addition, Johnson asked if GPTN supported naming the proposed trail through South Haymarket for former mayor Chris Beutler. Another Yes!

Noé asked Johnson about Parks and Rec facilities that are typically utilized by Trail Trek: Most restrooms in parks are still winterized. Antelope Park may be open, but 84th St. may require a portable. It is not certain that water fountains in parks will be available by 13 September.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(Due to the length of the meeting some reports were postponed)

* Trail Trek (Noé): A “Plan B” for food service has been developed and will be discussed at the Trail Trek meeting on Thursday. If committee in agreement the new plan will be sent to the Health Department for their approval. No further promotion of Trail Trek until they respond. We will probably need a COVID-19 for our insurance policy.
* GPTN tax status (C. Dunbar): Committee continues to investigate pros and cons of alternatives, including uncertain operational expenses, and is not ready to make a recommendation.

Dunbar also noted that NTF had received the reissued CSF check.

Bentrup moved **Noé seconded that the CSF funds be designated for the South Haymarket Trail (also known as Jamaica North part II). Approved**

* MoPac Alliance (Godfrey): Fifteen or sixteen trail signs have been installed between Wabash and the Lied Bridge parking lot. Current projects include artwork for two kiosks to be placed at each end of this trail segment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.

**NEXT MEETING**

20 July via Zoom.

Bill Wehrbein, Secretary