

GREENWAYS FOR OLDHAM COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
August 13, 2007

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Ashli Collins at 7:10 p.m. at the YMCA in Buckner. Directors present were Ashli Collins, Ted Merhoff, Paul Culbertson, Doug Wampler and Ann Clinton. Director absent was Judy Hall. Also present were Bob Clifford, Ed Kalmey, Rita Willis, Steve Wagner, Andrea Rogers (Strand Associates), Mike Smiley (Environs Inc.) and Sally Lackner.

Minutes of the meetings of July 9 and July 26, which had previously been sent to all board members, were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report. Ann presented a report that reflected all transactions for the current year and which showed bank balances totaling \$115,426.50 and a total fund balance of \$187,926.50.

Oldham County Day activity was briefly reviewed and everyone felt the effort was very successful. Ashli expressed appreciation to all who volunteered with the booth, especially those who are not members of the board. Many favorable comments were made about the brochures and the new banners.

Greenways Lake Trail. Ashli reported on her very encouraging meeting and site visit with County Judge/Executive Murner and Planning and Zoning's Louise Allen. She has had subsequent conversations with Barry Stoess of the Rogers Group, who expressed a willingness to provide crushed stone, at less than market price, to put on the trail. Barry went on to suggest that the trail project could provide excellent Eagle Scout service project opportunities. Ashli also spoke with Warden Chandler about extending the trail on the reformatory side of the lake. She said he was very positive about the project and told her that prisoner labor could be used on the construction and maintenance of the trail, but noted that clearance would also need to be obtained from the wardens of the other facilities on the site. Additionally, Ashli contacted Clay Jones who expressed a willingness to donate a bridge or other improvements to the proposed trail.

Although the proposed trail would ultimately encircle the reformatory lake, all agreed with Ashli that GW aggressively pursue now the development and expansion of the trail that presently exists and the trail that is planned on the park side of the lake. These trails are on property that is already owned by the county. Following a discussion about the need to do an engineering study of the site and develop a plan for the trail, Andrea and Mike, on behalf of their respective companies, expressed an interest in being involved in this aspect of the project and bringing proposals to the next GW meeting. Ashli will contact Fran Scott of Scott Klausing and invite him to also make a proposal. Mike suggested the trail or a portion thereof, if possible, be made handicap accessible, particularly the portion near the Senior Citizens Center.

LaGrange Ironman Festival. Bob, whose Bluegrass Cycle is a major sponsor of this event, expressed a willingness to “share” his exhibit space with GW in order for GW to have a small exhibit of its own, to pass out brochures and to talk with people who are interested in the mission and activities of GW. This event will be Sunday August 26, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It is part of the inaugural Ford Louisville Ironman Event. Discover Downtown LaGrange expects 2000+/- people to attend. Ted agreed to set up a table, display the banner and put out a supply of brochures. Other board members agreed to staff the booth to the extent they are able to do so. There will be no assigned shift times.

Greenways Summit. Doug reported on his efforts to organize this activity. The summit will be co-hosted by GW and Brandstetter Carroll Associates which is the consultant selected by the county to develop a greenways master plan. Environs Inc. is working with Brandstetter. Doug has developed a lengthy list of the people he intends to invite to participate in the summit and is also developing a list of the topics to be considered and discussed. It was concluded that the summit be held in the fiscal court room so it can be televised on cable TV. Dates in late September and early October were discussed, as well as the time of day to hold the event. The group unanimously agreed to accept Doug’s generous offer to organize the summit and to develop an action plan for it. It was also agreed by all that GW underwrite the cost of the summit, such cost being a proper use of a portion of the Kodak grant that was earmarked for publicity and other expenses associated with the promotion of greenways in the county. Doug will keep the board informed, via email, of his activities for the summit.

In kind donations. Doug said Emily Liu informed him that the value of all efforts connected with the development of greenways in the county can be used in calculating the value of the county’s local match requirement when obtaining government grants. It was Doug’s suggestion that all such efforts (including time spent by directors attending board meeting such as this one) be logged and recorded. Ted agreed to do this as part of recording the minutes for each meeting.

Commerce Parkway. Paul initiated a discussion on the progress being made on design and construction of the trail along Commerce Parkway, particularly the section from Allen Lane to Highway 393. He agreed to contact Emily Liu and then advise the board members by email about what needs to be done. Emily receives notices of GW meetings, but Ashli agreed to specifically invite her to attend future board meeting and provide updates on the Commerce Parkway trail and on other trail activities.

Membership. Paul raised the question as to whether a GW membership was for a twelve-month period from date of payment of dues or for a calendar year. No one seemed to know and there were differing opinions about what is preferable. Ann and Paul agreed to work together to develop a membership plan. This topic will be discussed at the next meeting. It was Ashli's opinion that all memberships and contributions be acknowledged in writing and to this end she agreed to prepare a supply of GW postcards and send a "thank you" to people who have renewed their memberships, become members and/or made donations to GW.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 17 at 7:00 p.m.the "Y".

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Ted Merhoff, Secretary