

Friends of the Northern Rail Trail Annual Meeting and Celebrations

Annual Meeting, October 5

Condensed from approved minutes

In attendance: Lindy Heim, Myra Mayman, Alex Bernhard, Don Moyer, Charles Martin, Ricker Miller, Tom Rousseau, Joe Olimpio, Patrice and Steve Rasche, Dave Beaufait, Lee Beachy, Derek Jurus, Carlyse and Bob Evans, Craig Heim

After introductory comments by the co-presidents, Alex Bernhard conducted the election of the Board of Directors for 2022-2023. The new slate of Directors was approved by a unanimous vote of all in attendance.

Those elected include Lindy Heim, Myra Mayman, Alex Bernhard, Amy Chan, Barbara Couturier, Steve Darling, George Heaton, Cody Hussey, Charles Martin, Ricker Miller, Don Moyer, Joe Olimpio, Tom Rousseau, and Peter Southworth.

Then a vote of the new Board was taken to approve the officers of the Board. Again, a unanimous vote resulted in the election of Lindy Heim and Myra Mayman as co-presidents, Don Moyer as vice-president, George Heaton as secretary, and Tom Rousseau as treasurer.

It was noted that four Board mem-



About 30 rail trail fans, volunteers, directors and officers of FNRT enjoyed a festive evening at the group's Annual Self-congratulatory Potluck Supper held at the lovely Andover Barn in East Andover on September 21. A wonderful time was had by all!

Caption: Lindy Heim
Photo: Heidi Rousseau

bers (George Heaton, Amy Chan, Cody Hussey, and Peter Southworth) who could not be in attendance had emailed their absentee votes approving the slate of directors and officers.

After the election, vice-president Don Moyer presented a video of the 2022 Year in Review visually highlighting the impressive accomplishments of

the FNRT in fundraising, trail building and maintenance, and new program development. Kudos to Don for preparing the video and to all FNRT Board members and volunteers, and to Trails Bureau staff for making 2022 such a spectacular year for us.

Don also presented the initial version of a "hot off the press" drone video and still photographs that he had just received that day.

Monthly Meeting, October 19

Condensed from draft minutes

Board members in attendance included co-presidents Myra Mayman and Lindy Heim, Alex Bernhard, Amy Chan, Barbara Couturier, Steve Darling, Cody Hussey, Charles Martin, Ricker Miller, Don Moyer, Tom Rousseau, and Peter Southworth. Other volunteers attending were Chris Norris and Craig Heim.

Tom Rousseau made his first report as the Board's newly-elected Treasurer. Highlights included that FNRT will finish this calendar year with approximately \$20,000 in its checking account; \$41,234 in donations were received thus far for 2022; and \$27,000 in grants (independent of RTP grants) were received in 2022.

Tom presented specifics of all donations and it was concluded that names of donors should be excluded from these reports for the sake of privacy.

There was also discussion of how often PayPal transfers should occur into our checking account and the process for that. A preliminary review of the 2023 budget was begun with all committees encouraged to get their budgetary needs ready by November.

The Treasurer's report was then approved, and Tom was congratulated on his initial effort.

There was no significant correspondence, but it was noted that Tom has secured a new post office box in New London and our official address is in the process of being changed to PO Box 2064, New London NH 03257.

Committee Reports

Promotion Committee: Lindy noted she had previously emailed a report to the Board for review. She turned her time over to Amy Chan who updated the Board on the Cycling Without Age (CWA) program. They have conducted five pilot orientations and have 15 fully certified pilots, five more in training to

be certified this year, and 41 on a waiting list to be certified. Forty-five rides have been given thus far, an average of two or three per day.

Amy has one new captain to help with certification. She would like to get a program coordinator to help her with the CWA program. There is now one off-trail route that has been approved connecting the Northern Rail Trail with the Mascoma River Trail. She also noted that our website now has a page devoted to the CWA program.

Amy has met with the director of the Peabody Home in Franklin, and there is interest in having a program in the Franklin area. The Lebanon CWA program is a chapter of CWA, and a question has been raised whether we will



Friends of the Northern Rail Trail Co-President Lindy Heim recognizes Alex Bernhard for his 17 years of service to the organization as Vice President. The recognition happened at the group's annual potluck supper, held at the Andover Barn in East Andover in September.

Photo: Heidi Rousseau

expand our existing chapter (such as to Franklin) or start a new chapter.

Board kudos were offered to Amy for her role in creating and operating this very successful program in Lebanon.

Maintenance Committee

The Boscawen extension was completed on budget and the State has approved efforts to publicize this new trail section. The plans to connect the NRT to the WRT in Franklin is at a standstill with no progress toward the necessary engineering study.

The second RTP project at Punch Brook bridge is underway and expected to be completed in another day or two.

The New Hampshire Bureau of Trails will soon be paving three tunnels in Grafton County.

See FNRT on page 23



ANDOVER SERVICE CLUB 25th ANNUAL

THANKSGIVING PIE SALE

Tue. & Wed. Nov. 22 & 23, 2022

10 am – 6 pm (or 'til sold out)

Circle K Convenience Store • Route 11, Andover

Bake Sale

Nov. 8 • 10 am – 6 pm (Election Day)

Andover Elementary/Middle School

Proceeds Benefit

Community Services and Scholarships

THE ANDOVER THRIFT & GIFT SHOP <i>Excellent Quality Clothing, Jewelry, & Local Crafts</i>		
Now Accepting Men's Clothing	NOVEMBER SALE SWEATERS \$3.00 EACH or TWO for \$5	LOCAL CRAFTS!
Donate or Consign	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10-4 PM Saturday 10-2 PM Located beside the Andover Elementary/Middle School 603-735-5269	BEAUTIFUL BROOCHES!

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