



Tomcat Bridgebuilders
PO Box 164
Trimble, Ohio 45782
740-593-3177

tomcatbridgebuilders501c3@gmail.com
www.tcbridgebuilders.org

Tomcat Bridgebuilders' Coalition Meeting

October 1, 2025

Members Present: Becky Handa, Alice Richards, Diana Chalfant, Kathy Trace, Svea Maxwell, and Evelyn Nagy, Sarah Fisher, Tisha Springer, Jeff Ross, and Heiki Perko

Ms. Handa called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

I. Approval of Agenda.

Ms. Richards moved to approve the agenda; Ms. Chalfant seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

II. Community Speakers

Ms. Perko has been at Trimble for 7 years and teaches 7th/8th grade science. She briefly reviewed program at the school she has been involved in including starting the Tomcats Unplugged program, Reserving Camp Oty Okwa for the trip this April, a 10 day nature meditation retreat this summer in Vermont, and met a musician and former National Geographic photographer interested in helping with Tomcats Unplugged. She is currently searching for an artist residence grant to cover travel and lodging for the presenters.

III. Community Events.

The following events were discussed:

- Appalachian Storytelling Fest-this Saturday, Bridgebuilders were invited to the Nelsonville Library Stage to hear four students read their essays from “Young Voices from a Small Town.”
- Athens Photographic Project Exhibit at the Dairy Barn opening is Friday, September 3rd, Peggy Garcia is working on having a closing event for parents and students late in the season when Trimble's schedule isn't so busy
- Trunk or Treat October 21st, 5:30-7 Trimble Elementary parking lot. Ms. Trace moved to approve the purchase of candy in the amount of up to \$150 for the event; Mr. Ross seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Red ribbon week: life is a puzzle, solve it drug free-door decorating, spirit week. This year students will have the opportunity to submit not just essays, but art posters as well, and photography. Mrs. Trace moved to approve \$1,500 to purchase swag for Red Ribbon Week, Mrs. Chalfant seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Boxing for books is Sunday November 2nd.
- “How do I drive this thing?” NAMI Athens programming at Nelsonville and Gloucester Library
- CASA annual fundraiser Chats and Tats is October 4th
- Friday October 17th is the Soctober event in The Plains

IV. Approval of Minutes.

- Ms. Richards moved to approve the September 3, 2025 minutes with the following corrections: Community Events: The Treasurers report included \$2,100 from the Rocky Grant not from the Athens County Foundation, Mini Grants: An updated form will be reviewed at the October board meeting, not the June meeting, New Business: The Recovery Wal is September 28th not September 20th. Ms. Trace seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

V. Mini-Grants Update.

- Marvin Nichols, Trimble Archery Group has 36 students in the middle and high school interested in the group. He is requesting funding for insurance and training. Mr. Nichols will need to turn in receipts and a report for the last grant for this project that he received. Ms. Trace move to approved \$500 for the Trimble Archery Group; Ms. Handa seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

VI. Old Business.

Mr. Ross and Ms. Handa signed new paperwork for the 2025 CD at 3.94% at Unified Bank which will expire on April 12, 2026. The group will discuss this at the December meeting.

VII. New Business.

- Meeting discuss OHYES! student surveys in December, Ms. Handa will present a summary at the November meeting
- There are 27 girls in Girl Power
- There are 11 5th graders in Band of Brothers

VIII. Other

- The next meeting is Wednesday, November 5, 2025 at 3 p.m. wear Bridgebuilders shirts to the community meeting.
- Ms. Handa will bring refreshments

III. Adjournment

Ms. Handa adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Members

Becky Handa, President
Amanda Sawvel, Vice President
Diana Chalfant, Co-Secretary
Sarah Fisher, Co-Secretary
Jeff Ross, Treasurer
Alice Richards
Jerry Marang
Kathy Trace
Ashley Dille
Olivia Kasler, Intern
<https://www.tcbridgebuilders.org>