

Redbank Valley Trails Association

Meeting Minutes – March 2, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 PM with 10 in attendance at the Brookville Presbyterian Church. Board members present were Darla Kirkpatrick, Sandy Mateer, Phil Hynes, Robert Moss, Patrick Conners Sr., and Bernie Marocco. RVTA members in attendance were Terry Mateer, Ryan George, Laura Lynn Yohe, and John Pozza.

The meeting began with president Darla Kirkpatrick's reading of the organization's goals and objectives.

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Draft meeting minutes for February 2, 2015 were reviewed. The following are *several* corrections made to the minutes:

Treasurer's Report:

- Correction to a \$407.51 credit sum left over from a Clarion County Trails Assoc. grant rather than a 'refund' as noted.
- Two \$150 lifetime memberships from *Nancy and Joseph Wyatt*.
- *John Colman* and *L. David Richards* should have been listed as submitting \$10 individual memberships rather than 'lifetime memberships'.

Punch-List Updates; 2014 Projects:

- Correction to the name spelling for *Dave Rupert*.
- Include '**Fishbasket**' in the list of point source pollution submissions to PENNVEST.
- Under the subject of **Soccer Field Encroachments** a 'phrasing' correction was suggested for changing the word 'negligent' to 'mistaken'.

A *motion* was made for a change in reviewing and correcting meeting minutes. Minutes would *first be sent to the board members* for review before being sent out to the general membership. The motion was seconded and approved in addition to the corrections and updates to the February meeting minutes. (Mateer/Hynes)

Treasurer's Report

RVTA Treasurer's report recorded a January 31st *ending balance* of **\$131,536.83**.

- Only one item under **Credits** and deposits totaling **\$5.05**
- **Debits** included **\$63.00** to **Williams Sanitation** for porta-john rental and **\$50** for the **Redbank Valley Chamber of Commerce** membership.
- *Allocated/Restricted* treasury funds were at **\$112,728.24**.
- *Unrestricted* general funds totaled **\$18,808.59**.

A *motion* was made and approved to accept and file the February *treasurer's report* for audit. (Mateer/Moss)

Public Comments

- *Laura Lynn Yohe* asked if it would be necessary to involve the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers** in the plans for the **Depot Spur** washout repair since the Corps is responsible for *flood control* protection along the Brookville to Coder segment of the Redbank Creek.
- *Phil Hynes* responded that following project input by Borough Engineers, **Nichols and Slagle**, no mention was made regarding Corps involvement.
- It was also pointed out that through a standing MOU with the Corps, the Borough has riparian easement rights and responsibilities over that stream segment for sediment control/removal.
- Also mentioned were the excellent snow conditions for **X-C Skiing** along the trail this year.
- Considering the heavy ski use this year, the board will consider budgeting for occasional trailhead *snow plowing* next winter.
- There was a recent **North Country Trail Group Hike** along a portion of the trail starting at Summerville.

Volunteer Hours

Sandy Mateer reported a total tally of **1983 hours** volunteer hours for **2014**. To date, **204 hours** have been reported for **2015**. Members are encouraged to report their volunteer hours.

Punch-list Updates; 2015 Projects

Climax Tunnel:

- **Phase 1** (*repairing the tunnel ceiling hole*) is complete.
- A final inspection of Phase 1 work is expected on Thursday, March 5th.
- An MOU with Clarion County regarding grant agreements for the next work phases would need to specify that Clarion County not be responsible to cover any cost over-runs.

A *motion* was made and approved to authorize a future MOU agreement with Clarion County via email. (Mateer/ Hynes)

HRRMA Sewage Project (Mayport):

- Construction on the Mayport sewage line segment is just getting up and running.
- The project will be finished when the sewage plant is completed. The anticipated projected completion date is November 2015.

Lawsonham washout:

A *motion* was made and approved to move this topic to an executive session to follow. (Mateer/ Connors)

Ray Doverspike Opening Day Memorial Hike

The opening day hike is scheduled for Saturday March 28th. The hike is planned from the west entrance of the Climax Tunnel to St. Charles. An event parking agreement was made with Snyder Brothers for use of their property at the south side of the Climax Bridge.

A *motion* was made to approve the *one day* parking agreement with **Snyder Brothers**. (Mateer/ Hynes)

Moore Road Kayak Launch License Agreement

The license agreement with landowner **Ralph Siebach** is now out for review. Following review, the license agreement will be delivered to Mr. Siebach for approval and signature.

Trail Cleanup Day

The Trail Cleanup Day is scheduled for **April 25th** beginning at 9:00 AM with three staging sites in New Bethlehem, Summerville, and Brookville. An alternate *rain date* is set for **May 2nd**.

Snowmobile Trespassers

- Snowmobilers went through the trail gate near Leatherwood Station. Vandals had *removed the gates from their hinges*.
- Snowmobilers were discovered and confronted on the trail near Leatherwood by **President Darla Kirkpatrick**. Though some sped on, one rider stopped and gave no explanation or justification for their trespass.
- After securing photos of the sled and license, Darla reported the incident to State Police on the next day.
- The State Trooper who responded was able to locate and question the sled owner who lived in the vicinity of Leatherwood.
- The Trooper promised to submit a press release for the paper without providing names since they were not charged. (His recommendation was not to press charges at this time pending a repeat violation).

Grant Updates

- Additional CFA (**Commonwealth Financing Authority**) grants may need to be applied for in 2015 to support ongoing projects and *provide matching funds* for other **DCNR** or TAP grants.
- **Ron Steffey** suggests filing for another **CFA (Commonwealth Financing Authority) Grant** from the **PA Department of Community Economic Development**.

A *motion* was made and approved to file for **DCNR** or **CFA** grants with the intent to use these as *matching funds* for **TAP** grants. (Mateer/ Hynes)

- RVTA would also apply for a **PENNVEST (Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority) Grant** to address several AMD point source pollution and bank erosion mitigation projects along the Redbank and Fiddler Creeks within the Trail corridor.

A *motion* was made and approved to file for a 2015 **PENNVEST Grant** for AMD and stream bank stabilization projects. (Mateer/ Conners)

Old Business

- *Signage* for **Rusty Price's Hunter's Moon Bed and Breakfast** along the Climax segment of the Trail has been approved.

Respectfully Submitted

s/Bernie Marocco, Secretary

Minutes Approved: April 6, 2015 as corrected