

Redbank Valley Trails Association

Meeting Minutes –April 6, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 PM with 15 in attendance at the New Bethlehem Presbyterian Church. Board members present were Darla Kirkpatrick, Sandy Mateer, Phil Hynes, Galen Shirey, Robert Moss, Patrick Connors Sr., David Henderson, and Bernie Marocco. RVTA members in attendance were Chuck Marsh, Terry Mateer, Greg Faller (Clarion County Commissioner), Laura Lynn Yohe (reporter, Jeffersonian Democrat), Sandy Marsh, Tim Welsh, and Pam Henderson.

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

Monthly Meeting Minutes

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

Punch-List Updates; 2014 Projects:

- Under the subject of **Climax Tunnel**: 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.

Snowmobile Trespassers:

- Under the 5th bullet statement regarding the State Trooper's recommendations on pressing charges: the statement was corrected to *pending a repeat violation*.

Grant Updates:

- Under the first bullet item, additional TAP (PennDOT) grants *will* need to be applied for in 2015.... is changed to: additional CFA (Commonwealth Financing Authority) grants *may* need to be applied for...

A *motion* was seconded and approved to accept these corrections along with several minor changes in syntax or phrasing to the March meeting minutes. (Kirkpatrick/Henderson)

Treasurer's Report

RVTA Treasurer's report recorded a March 31st *ending balance* of **\$132,517.92**.

- **Credits and Deposits** totaled **\$1095.59**. Included were donations totaling **\$1040.00** to the **Ray Doverspike Fund**, **\$50** to **Robert Moss Family Membership** for years 15 and 16, as well as **\$5.59** earned interest.
- **Debits** of **\$114.50** included **\$63.00** to **Williams Sanitation** for porta-john rental and **\$51.50** to **ESS Insurance Group**.
- *Allocated/Restricted* treasury funds were at **\$113,400.98**.
- *Unrestricted* general funds totaled **\$19,116.94**.

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

Public Comments

- **Laura Lynn Yohe** asked if the corrected minutes would be posted on the RVTA website. It was clarified that they would be posted on the web site as well as mailed as an attachment to the second month following.
- **Tim Welsh and Pam Henderson** reported that the porta-john in Summerville had been knocked over then mysteriously righted.

Volunteer Hours

Sandy Mateer reported that to date, **314 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.
- The engineering company, **Gannett Fleming** met with RVTA board members at the tunnel site and though they were not able to make the phase 2 & 3 proposal deadline, they expressed an interest in future project proposals.

HRRMA Sewage Project:

- A non-point source pollution of *acid mine drainage* occurring at the site behind M&S Meats in Fairmount City has created wet and soft conditions on the trail. That segment is unsuitable for the heavy truck traffic required to apply replacement crush limestone.
- RVTA member **Brenda Shick** and an associate of **Shick's Horizontal Drilling Contracting** inspected the site with **Darla Kirkpatrick**, **Galen Shirey**, and **Bernie Marocco** in order to discuss site mitigation proposals.
- Due to the soft surface conditions, *ditch and culvert inlet opening* would be accomplished with their smaller/lighter mini-excavator.
- In lieu of these unsuitable conditions behind M&S Meats the **Sewage Contractor** has offered to apply replacement crushed limestone at *an alternate section of trail* near **Town Run** in **Alcola**.

A *motion* was made and approved to ask the Sewage Contractor to go ahead with his offer to apply crushed limestone to the above noted alternate site in Fishbasket (Town Run). (Mateer/ Shirey)

- The Sewage Contractor also recommended applying tar and chip to the ramps at the **Middle Run** road crossing. Due to the steepness of the ramps (10%+ grades) crushed limestone would quickly *erode and ravel*.

A *motion* was made and approved to *not* apply crushed limestone at Middle Run and subsequently *reduce* the crushed limestone application depth from **4"** to **3"** at **Fishbasket** in order to extend the length of trail surface improvements from **Town Run** to the **Route 28** crossing. (Mateer/ Shirey)

Lawsonham (Sligo Spur) washout:

- That project is 'on hold' until funds become available.

Depot Spur (Brookville):

- **Phil Hynes** reported that there were 4 bidders for the Depot Spur washout culvert installation.
- **TR Excavating** was low bidder with other bids coming from Bison, Rankin, and Palo Construction.
- The **Brookville Borough Council** will be voting on bid approvals on Tuesday April 7th.

Ray Doverspike Opening Day Memorial Hike

The March 28th opening day event was a fun day for participants despite the cold conditions. The group hiked from the west entrance of Climax Tunnel to St. Charles. Hot chocolate was provided by **Pam and Dave Henderson**. Palo's equipment had been removed from the site providing more room for parking. The Snyder Brother's alternative parking site across the bridge at Climax was not needed. Palo's porta-john rental, which was still on site, provided ~~an~~ additional staging amenities.

Moore Road Kayak Launch License Agreement

The license agreement with landowner has now been signed by **Ralph Siebach**. The **\$4000** grant from the **Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's Canoe Access Development Fund** has been received.

A *motion* was made and approved to accept the signed license agreement for the **Moore Road Kayak Launch**. (Mateer/ Henderson)

Formal Adoption of Business Signage Policy

The guidelines for **Business Signage** along the trail corridor have been developed and will accompany the application and permit form.

A *motion* was made and seconded to approve the **Business Signage policy and permit application form.** (Henderson / Shirey)

Upcoming Officer Elections

- At the regular May Board meeting elections will be held for officers and board members whose terms are up.
- Both President Darla Kirkpatrick and Vice-president Sandy Mateer will have scheduling conflicts for May 4th. The regular Board and Annual Meetings have been rescheduled to May 11th.

Day of Giving Plans

- Flyers announcing the May 14th Day of Giving will be mailed out.
- The flyers will include details on options for making donations and donation drop off locations.
- **Northwest Savings Bank** will be providing Donuts and Coffee.
- **Sandy Mateer** stated that we are hoping for as much as a 20% matching fund donation this year. Last year's matching percent was 17%.

A *motion* was made and approved to accept **Sandy Mateer's** proposal to develop and send out member notices for the upcoming **2015, Day of Giving** event. (Shirey/ Henderson)

Grant Updates

No grant updates

Old Business

- The **MOU with Clarion County** will specify that the County will *not* be responsible for overages on grant contracts.

A *motion* was made and seconded to approve the wording of the RVTA/AVLT MOU with Clarion County. (Shirey/ Henderson)

New Business

- The **Redbank Valley Youth Football Organization** has requested that RVTA approve the use of the Trail for their July 4th **5k Run**. **Darla Kirkpatrick** informed her that the organization would have to carry the 'one day event insurance' for use of the trail.

A *motion* was made and seconded to approve the use of the trail for the July 4th **Redbank Valley Youth Football 5k Run** pending verification of insurance coverage. (Mateer/ Henderson)

- East Brady property owner **Angie Burtner** asked the Armstrong and Redbank Trails for approval of their planned surface hardening of a *short segment* of 22' wide, *shared* access road. They propose using **#57 commercial stone** (more suitable for passenger vehicle weights). This larger aggregate gradation, is more coarse than the standard crushed limestone used on bike trails.
- As this is not a portion of Redbank Trail, and in the interest of good neighbors, **Darla Kirkpatrick** recommended *allowing* the coarser #57 gradation commercial stone **for the whole width** of the short road segment rather than leaving a 7 ft. wide strip for the more bike friendly crushed limestone surfacing. The *short* segment would only pose a *minor inconvenience* to bike travel.

Respectfully Submitted

s/Bernie Marocco, Secretary

Minutes Approved: May 11, 2015