

Redbank Valley Trails Association

Meeting Minutes –May 11, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM with 17 in attendance at the Brookville 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 Terry Mateer, Greg Faller (Clarion County Commissioner), Laura Lynn Yohe (reporting for Jeffersonian Democrat), Sissy Rutkowski, Tim Welsh, Jim 'Moon' VanSteenberg (Jefferson Co. Treasurer), David Richardson, Ryan George, John Pozza, and Pam Henderson.

The reading of the goals and objectives were waived having just been read at the annual meeting.

Election of Officers

Bernie Marocco was thanked for his service as Secretary. After discussion, a motion was made and approved to elect Darla Kirkpatrick as President, Sandy Mateer as Vice President and Ty Poster as Secretary/Treasurer. (Mateer/Hynes)

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Draft meeting minutes for April 6, 2015 were reviewed. The following are several corrections made to the minutes:

Opening Paragraph:

- *Chuck Marsh's* name was deleted from the list of 'Board Members' in attendance and moved to 'RVTA members' in attendance.

March 2nd Meeting Minutes Corrections:

- Under the subject of pressing charges for Snowmobile Trespassers, wording was revised to state pending a repeat violation.

Treasurer's Report:

- Under Credits and Deposits, the Ray Doverspike *Foundation* was corrected to **Ray Doverspike Fund**.

Punch List Updates:

- Under **HRRMA Sewage Project** the 5th bullet item was corrected to read **tar and chip** instead of *asphalt*.

A *motion* was seconded and approved to accept these corrections to the April 6th meeting minutes along with several minor changes in syntax and spelling. (Mateer/Henderson/Hynes)

Treasurer's Report

RVTA Treasurer's report recorded an April 30st *ending balance* of **\$139,349.95**.

- **Credits and Deposits** totaled **\$6,915.71**. Among the amounts credited were grants from the **Clarion County Room Tax (\$2000.00)**, **Western PA Conservancy Canoe Access Grant (\$4000.00)**, a **\$100 Trail Donation** from **Catherine Fissell**, **\$300** for **Lifetime Memberships** from **Pam & Dave Henderson**, as well as **\$5.71** earned interest.
- **Debits** of **\$83.68** included **\$63.00** to **Williams Sanitation** for porta-john rental and **\$20.68** reimbursed to **Pam Henderson** for Opening Day hike expenses.
- **Allocated/Restricted** treasury funds were at **\$113,400.98**.
- **Unrestricted** general funds totaled **\$19,116.94**.

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

A *motion* was made and approved to pay the insurance bill of \$1,018.32 to ESS Insurance. (Mateer/Hynes).

Public Comments

- **Jim 'Moon' VanSteenberg** informed the group that he has enlisted the *'free'* services of a local stone inscriber to etch any board approved wording/image on a large flat stone currently situated within the trail right-of-way between Rattlesnake Creek and the Baxter Trailhead.

A *motion* was made and approved to accept the offer of the proposed free inscription services at this site with specific design/wording to be determined at a future meeting. (Conners/ Hynes)

- **Terry Mateer** provided an extensive punch list of maintenance items he has identified. The list included vegetation abatement, installation of historical markers, re-setting the 32 mile marker monument below Summerville as well as several mile markers below Lawsonham, painting the mile markers, placing crushed limestone unsurfaced segments below St. Charles, installing memorial benches, mounting the Trail Bear figure at the New Bethlehem trailhead, removing graffiti at the Climax Tunnel, and installing the Fishbasket Historical Marker. Any volunteers willing to help can notify him of the time and date of their availability by email.
- It was announced that **Sandy Mateer** was awarded recognition at the Pittsburgh meeting of the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance for her outstanding service as a Volunteer and it was suggested that RVTA apply for the group award next year.
- **Pam Henderson** informed the group that the **Brookville Trail Town** committee she works with will be pairing up their meetings with Brookville **Create**. Currently they are working on ideas for commercial or locally made bike rack designs to be installed at various locations in downtown.
- **Ryan George**, a member who often cuts out large trees that have fallen on the trail in the Summerville area, requested and was granted permission to access the trail with his pick-up. Rather than just bucking up the logs and pieces along the trail cut banks, he could use his truck to remove the slash and trunks in order to prevent eventual ditch blocking of the downed and dead debris.
- The question of *bollard widths* for ease of trike passage came up for discussion. Though most current bollard installations provide ample width for trike passage, a few older installations are less than 40" wide. **Tim Welsh**, a trike rider, pointed out that there was still one in place at Mayport that is under the 40" width and requires slowing down at its approach.

Volunteer Hours

Sandy Mateer reported that to date, **366 hours** have been tallied for **2015**. Members are encouraged to report their volunteer hours.

Punch-list Updates; 2015 Projects

Climax Tunnel:

- Referencing ongoing work and future grant awards needed to complete the Climax Tunnel Project, the Clarion County MOU was reviewed by the AVLT. Some wording in item 7 of the MOU was stricken from the document at AVLT's suggestion. The wording which specifically recommended inspector/sponsor meetings in order to monitor project status and avoid cost overruns was replaced with: *As the County has the right to reject bids, if bids exceed the anticipated costs and the Trust or RVTA so request, the County will reject those bids that exceed the engineer's projected costs.*

A *motion* was made and approved to accept AVLT's revised version of the Clarion County MOU. (Mateer/Conners)

HRRMA Sewage Line Project: The conditions behind M&S Meats was discussed. Darla will contact HRRMA about installing crushed limestone between Alcola and Town Run.

Depot Spur (Brookville):

- **Phil Hynes** reported that the contract let by Brookville Borough for washout culvert installation had been awarded to **TR Excavating**. The contractor planned on commencing work by month's end. A 300 ft. section of the spur under AVLT/RVTA ownership has old rails and ties still in place. These will need to be removed to allow access to the site from Rose Siding.

The **Trail Bear** complete with a *Redbank Valley Trail Map* painted on its torso by 3 **Brookville High School** art students will be ready for pick up on May 20th. *Sandy Mateer* and others will be at the Brookville High School to receive the bear during school hours. RVTA would like to have a photographer from the local newspaper on hand to photograph the event.

Memorial Bench: Cost for 2 sided benches

The board agreed to set the cost of a 2-sided memorial bench at **\$500**.

Old Business

- **Web site revision:** *Sandy Mateer* has put together a list of pop-up menu items for the web site revision and requested that the Board provide comments.

New Business

- The Armstrong Trail Association is looking for participants for their July 17th East Brady River Festival.

A *motion* was made and approved to adjourn the meeting and move to executive session. (Mateer/Shirey); 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted



Bernie Marocco, Secretary

Minutes Approved: June 1, 2015