

Redbank Valley Trails Association

Meeting Minutes – May 19, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by President Darla Kirkpatrick following the Annual Meeting which began at 7:12 PM. There were 12 in attendance at the Brookville Presbyterian Church and a quorum was established. Board members present were Darla Kirkpatrick, Sandy Mateer, Phil Hynes, Pat Connors, Galen Shirey, and Bernie Marocco. RVTA members in attendance were Terry Mateer, Chuck and Sandy Marsh, Dan Bowser, John Pozza, Laura Lynn Yohe, and Dave Henderson.

The evening began with the Annual Meeting. The customary reading of the organization's goals and objectives were read during that earlier session.

Election of Officers

A *motion* was made to approve the re-election of 4 officers to the board from tonight's earlier *Annual Meeting*. (Kirkpatrick/Connors)

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Corrections were made for the April meeting minutes. Under the topic **Other Grant Updates: AVLT** (not 'Sandy Mateer') filed for a DCNR grant on April 4. Also under the same topic: in the last line describing a motion made strike 'visioning initiative' and replace with *grant application*.

A *motion* was approved to accept the corrected April 21, 2014, draft meeting minutes. (Hynes/Shirey)

Treasurer's Report

Ending April 30, the RVTA treasurer's report submitted a total balance of \$92,337.72. Of that amount, allocated/restricted funds totaled \$76,972.09; and unrestricted general funds were \$14,697.23.

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

Public Comments

- RVTA member **Dan Bowser** praised RVTA's work on the Summerville Trailhead.
- **Sandy Mateer** provided an update on the '**Day of Giving**' event:
 - To date, **\$22,535** in cash donations were received.
 - There are still some 'mail-in' donations yet to be tallied.
 - The final matching funds percentage has not yet been determined.
 - Memorial bridge donations were made by **Galen Shirey** and **John Pozza** for the Pine Run bridge and Baxter bridge at MP 37.96.
- **Phil Hynes** and **John Pozza** produced a cameo trail video for the WPSU (public TV channel) '*My Town Brookville*' series. The video included scenes of Rose Siding bridge, the Brookville Tunnel, wildlife scenes along Redbank Creek, and an interview providing trail assets and railroad history, as well as it's '*Trail of the Year*' status. The program will be aired in late June.
- **Darla Kirkpatrick** commented on the eagle family status at Moore Road trailhead/Rachel Carson Bridge location. It is thought that there may be at least one *eagle hatchling* this year.

Volunteer Hours

Volunteer hours tallied to date were 286 hours. Two members turned in volunteer hours last month.

Punch-list Updates; 2014 Projects

Climax Tunnel

Three grant applications were recently submitted to DCNR, TAP, and TIGER. A CFA grant application will be submitted soon.

A PUC hearing on the Climax project is scheduled for May 22nd.

Jefferson County Transportation Enhancement project (Coder to Rachel Carson Bridge)

The project is nearly completed and ***Horizon Construction's*** quality of work has been very satisfactory.

Kayak/Canoe Launch at Moore Rd. Trailhead

No additional project plan updates were submitted. Following ***Laura Lynn Yohe's*** recommendations, Bernie Marocco will be contacting the ***Jefferson County Conservation District*** regarding the issuing of necessary permits.

HRRMA Sewage Project (Hawthorn)

Terry Mateer reported on the ***Phase B Preconstruction Meeting:***

- Phase B covers the segment from Fairmont City to New Bethlehem.
- The Pump Station in Fairmont City will be accessed from Route 28, not the Trail.
- The anticipated start date for Phase B will be May 19 and completed by February 2015.
- The Trail Association should receive a work schedule for this phase.

The HRRMA's plans for ***drilling a hole through the Pine Run Bridge abutment*** to install a sewage line has raised some concern. Terry was uncertain if this plan has been presented to the ***Railroad which must approve any major structural alterations***. The board proposed that the ***RVTA go on record to request that AVLT notify the Railroad*** of these plans.

Sligo Spur Development

The vegetation management spraying has been completed on Sligo Spur. Darla Kirkpatrick had a cordial meeting with the landowner whose 2014 logging operation involved a minor encroachment along the Sligo Spur.

Trail Work at Summerville

A new application of crushed limestone surfacing will be applied at the Summerville Trailhead and Bauer Road crossing where drainage improvements were made. **Mark Kirkpatrick** had installed a 32' steel casing cross drain at the trailhead and applied sub-base to raise the grade template at both sites. Limestone surfacing, as well as bollard and stop sign installation will complete the upgrade.

April 26th Trail Clean-up Days

Pam and Dave Henderson tackled the trail clean-up at *Summerville* and thirty **Cub Scouts** cleaned up from Middle Run to the Climax tunnel and worked on drainage ditches.

Volunteer Fun Day

The June 22nd fun day and picnic for trail volunteers will be hosted by **Pam** and **Dave Henderson** at their establishment, ***'The House at the End of the Road'*** Bed and Breakfast. For time and additional event plans check the RVTA Facebook site. Those planning to attend must RSVP via email or phone.

Clarion County Outdoor Event (August 9th)

The ***Clarion County Trails Association*** is planning on highlighting the Redbank Valley Trail with this event. In addition to a possible 5 K Run, the ***Gumtown Park*** site will host a ***barbeque, blue grass music, and kayaking***.

The RVTA has offered to plan and oversee the 5k run with the net profits from registration fees going to the treasury.

- Galen Shirey will help with the trail layout
- Sandy Mateer will handle the paperwork and race T-shirts.
- Official 'timers' for the race must be scheduled.

Old Business

The EPTA (Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Association) meeting will be hosted in Brookville on July 22nd. A host meeting site has not yet been reserved.

Discussion of a **business signing** proposal followed addressing the installation of two business signs along the trail. The businesses are *Hunters Moon Lodge* in Climax and *Alcola Park* camp site in Alcola. The proposal agreed upon was to charge a **\$250 initial fee** for a renewable sign placement license with an annual **renewal fee of \$50**. The RVTA would determine the sign specifications with placement proposals to be reviewed by the board.

A **motion** was made to accept and implement the **business signing fee rates** and **uniform placement standards**. (Mateer/Shirey)

New Business

The June 16th RVTA meeting will be hosted by **Brenda Shick** at the **Brick House B&B** in Oak Ridge.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

s/Bernie Marocco, Secretary

Minutes Approved: June 16, 2014