

# Redbank Valley Trails Association

## Meeting Minutes – Oct. 5, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM with 13 in attendance at the New Bethlehem Presbyterian Church. Board members present were Patrick Conners Sr., Phil Hynes, Darla Kirkpatrick, Sandy Mateer, Bernie Marocco, Robert Moss and Galen Shirey. RVTA members in attendance were Mark Kirkpatrick, Terry Mateer, Sissy Rutkowski and Tim Welsh. Laura Lynn Yohe (reporting for Jeffersonian Democrat) was also present. Board members Chuck Marsh and Ty Poster were absent.

1. **Goals and objectives** were read by President Darla Kirkpatrick.
2. **Monthly Meeting Minutes.** The meeting minutes for the Board meeting of Sept.10, 2015, were approved as written. (Conners/Marocco)
3. **Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer's report as of Sept. 30, 2015, was reviewed. The current balance was \$157,989.55 with committed and reserved funds of \$87,449.69 and unreserved funds of \$70,539.86. A motion was made and approved to accept the treasurer's reports and file for audit. (Shirey/Marocco).  
Accounts payable as follows were ratified and approved : 9/04/2015 \$253.38 ESS Nextier for Insurance, 9/14/2015 \$33.79 Bradigan's Fuel, 9/17/2015 \$30.99 Heeter's Lumber, and 9/29/15 \$49.00 USPS for stamps.
4. **Public Comments.** Suggestions for Halloween fundraiser was discussed among other topics.
5. **Volunteer Hours.** 900 hours were reported with many not having been submitted.
6. **Grant Updates; 2015 Projects**
  - a. **Climax Tunnel:** The SW portal buttress engineering proposal was still pending AVLT review and approval.
  - b. **Moore Rd. Kayak Launch.** Bernie Marocco reported progress with delivery of stone. Large stones are needed near creek.
  - c. **Website Revision** – In progress.
  - d. It was noted that the **PA Wilds Mini Grant application** was rejected.
  - f. It was noted that a **North Central Mini Grant** opportunity should be announced soon.
  - g. **Industrial Heartland Trail Coalition grant** is to be filed by Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> for crushed limestone on miles 1 to 15.
7. **Non-grant updates; 2015 Projects**
  - a. HRRMA Sewage Line Project – Restoration status was discussed: Mayport not yet completed, no seeding or erosion controls still at Fishbasket, Mayport to Pine Run edges are higher than center which need to be graded properly to avoid drainage problems before application of crushed limestone. It was agreed that we would offer to correct for money HRRMA would spend on a contractor. Galen Shirey is to speak with Senate's supervising engineer Harold.
  - b. Depot St. Spur - A grand opening celebration was discussed with date deferred to Spring, pending parking area improvements by Borough. Phil is working on signage, timbers and other improvements.
  - c. DEP Well Plugging; Madison Twp. –no new action.
  - d. Brookville H S Art Bear Installation near Liberty Street was completed.
  - e. Work day for soccer port-o-join/trail connection to be set after course is planned in conjunction with signage.
  - f. Budget for trail improvement from St. Charles to the Allegheny River – Darla reported that work was completed from mile 1 to near Mile 6. Work is to be done from St. Charles to Leatherwood Station and toward Lawsonham before it gets too cold to use St. Charles Road. A motion was made and approved to obtain a bond for St. Charles Road from Rt. 861 to Leatherwood Station Road, to video the road and apply crushed limestone from St. Charles to Leatherwood and such additional distance toward Lawsonham as Darla Kirkpatrick may deem possible and advisable within her discretion. (Conners/Shirey).

**8. Events & Promotion**

- a. Peanut Butter Festival, New Bethlehem Sept. 18-20 - Tent staff and parade participants were thanked, visitors and comments were discussed.
- b. Greenways Conference Warren PA Sept. 20-22 was reviewed. Mateers and Bernie Marocco attended. A motion was made and approved to change the OPDMD policy to allow electric assist bikes, subject to legal standards, including no more than 100 pounds, top speed of 20 miles per hour and pedals. (Conners/Marocco).
- c. Brookville YMCA color run on October 31 – Approved to participate with a 3 way split of funds. (Mateer/Conners)

**9. Old Business**

- a. Tractor and tool storage at Kirkpatrick's for now.
- b. Soccer Association agreement presented to Soccer Association for review. No response yet.

**10. New Business**

- a. Clint Stout timbering and Stout crossing agreement - no response.
- b. Rutkowski crossing agreement to be negotiated and drafted.
- c. Leader-Vindicator article for special edition on history of corridor and tourism potential was approved by general consensus.
- d. Placement of mile markers at historic mile markers or at actual mileage was discussed. Bernie's research showed railroad mile markers were not always accurate and that we should add to map that mile markers may not reflect actual mileage. It was agreed that we would put markers near where the original railroad markers are found and if missing to place the markers as accurately as possible. It was also agreed to take GPS locations of markers for 911 and emergency purposes.

The meeting then moved by motion to **executive session** at 8:40 PM. (Mateer/Shirey)

**Conveyance.** Current status and comments by DCNR at conference were discussed with no action taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/ Sandy Mateer  
Sandy Mateer, Acting Secretary

Minutes Approved: November 2, 2015