

# Redbank Valley Trails Association

## Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM with 12 in attendance at the Brookville Presbyterian Church. Board members present were Pat Conners, Bernie Marocco, Chuck Marsh, Sandy Mateer, Robert Moss and Galen Shirey. RVTA members in attendance were Sandy Marsh, Terry Mateer, John Pozza, Tim Welsh and Michael White. Laura Lynn Yohe (reporting for Jeffersonian Democrat) was also present. Board members Phil Hynes, Darla Kirkpatrick and Ty Poster were absent.

1. **Goals and objectives** were read by Sandy Mateer.
2. **Officer Positions.** Action tabled pending Darla Kirkpatrick's response to the Board's letter asking her to reconsider her resignation as President.
3. **Monthly Meeting Minutes.** Bernie Marocco agreed to help take minutes. The meeting minutes for the Board meeting of December 7, 2015, were approved as written. (Shirey/Moss)
4. **Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer's report as of Dec. 31, 2015, was reviewed. The current balance was \$100,931.89 with committed and reserved funds of \$80,845.26 and unreserved funds of \$20,086.63. \$2,871.58 in trail improvements and administrative costs were expended in December.

Accounts payable as follow were approved: \$50 for the Redbank Valley Chamber and \$40 for the Brookville chamber membership fees. (Shirey/Moss)

In addition to interest and other donations, December receipts included: A grant of \$8,000 from the Doppelt Family fund was received for crushed limestone between miles 6 and 15. Donations from the December challenge fund were received of \$11,205.00, including donations from EQT, Fat Tire Mt. Bike Race, Jeff Wimer, Eric Durante, David Galbreath, Tim and Jenn Murray of Redbank Valley Subway, a donation by Andrew Turner in memory of Dorothy P. and Rev. Roger W. Cramer, Sr. formerly of Summerville, a donation by Stuart Mold and Manufacturing in memory of Windle Stuart whose residence was near the north end of the Climax Tunnel and many others. Allocations are \$10,300 to the Crushed Limestone Fund, \$500 for Gourley and Ruffner benches and \$405 to memberships, with the PayPal fees of \$72.12 to be taken from the general fund.

A motion was made and approved to accept the treasurer's reports and file for audit. (Shirey/Moss).

5. **Public Comments.** John Pozza, as part of an ad hoc Boro committee, discussed plans and possible designs for bike racks in Brookville, which the Borough will install. Donations are needed. Dedication of the Depot St. spur was discussed.
6. **Volunteer Hours.** Over 1200 reported. Website, email and paper submittal forms are available for reporting hours.
7. **Grant Updates; 2015 Projects**
  - a. **Climax Tunnel:** PUC response on status is needed (to be done by Mateer and Steffey) with Senate prepared plans for approval of subsequent phases. It was noted that Bill Braun of Senate Engineering is still waiting for pricing from contractors for the "Type, Size and Location" Phase 2 design with a planned Spring let. SW Buttress design was done with plans to be printed by mid-Jan. Ron Steffey wants to do construction on buttress separately with DCNR funds.
  - b. **Moore Rd. Kayak Launch.** Bernie Marocco reported status with balance of grant funding to be used for additional stone and signage. Bernie attended the Clover Township meeting to advise them of the launch.

c. Applications to either or both of the EQT Foundation or Doppelt fund grants were approved for filings by Feb. 1 and Jan. 31 respectively for crushed limestone and/or washout engineering and work. (Moss/Shirey)

#### **8. Non-grant updates; 2015 Projects**

a. HRRMA Sewage Line Project – Restoration status was discussed. The berm at Rhodes Salvage was completed. Ruts near Mayport bridge will be investigated by Galen. No new work appears to have been done in Mayport area. Crushed limestone was delivered at Mayport for our use.

b. Work days for soccer port-o-join/trail connection to be set in Spring after course is planned in conjunction with signage, plus work days for ditching and brush clearing are to be set as weather permits.

c. Trail improvement from St. Charles to the Allegheny River –All crushed limestone was applied except for miles 6 to 11 to be accessed via Lawsonham. Work is also needed between Middle Run to Fairmount City, including AMD drainage issues behind M&S Meats, with application of crushed limestone.

d. Vegetation Management – A motion was made to apply earlier than last year at a date recommended by the company for maximum effectiveness. (Conners/Marocco)

e. Sligo Spur –Signs were posted about every ½ mile in mid-December by Sandy and Ty. Work days are to be scheduled as weather permits to pick up a tremendous amount of accumulated garbage. Chuck Marsh will check on dumpster availability and placement.

#### **9. Events & Promotion**

##### **a. Fundraiser and Event Scheduling**

1. March 26<sup>th</sup> opening day hike/litter pick up may be held on Sligo Spur near Huey.
2. Spring Great PA Clean Up/work day day - April 23, 2016.
3. The Day of Giving joint fundraiser event is set for May 7<sup>th</sup> in New Bethlehem. Board members are to work on list of invitees.
4. Day of Giving on May 12, 2016 to follow same procedures as in past.
5. Hansel Lucas adventure race (triathlon) in Summerville tentatively approved for May 14, 2016, pending receipt of application, insurance, fee. (Marocco/Marsh).
6. RVTA race/fundraiser was scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with Brookville Dedication.

b. Tri-County Rails to Trails has offered a speaking/meeting opportunity regarding future efforts on the PA Wilds West Trail with a date, time and place yet to be set.

#### **10. Old Business**

a. Soccer Association agreement presented to Soccer Association for review. No response yet.

b. Mile markers. Tim, Terry, Galen offered to help with installation of mile markers and historic markers. Gary Kirkpatrick and others have installed many near mile 1 to 16.

c. Rutkowski crossing agreement to be negotiated and drafted.

d. 2016 calendar meeting schedule confirmed as 1<sup>st</sup> Monday alternating odd numbered months in Brookville and even months in New Bethlehem, except that because of holidays and schedule conflicts, meetings will be on second Mondays in Brookville on July 11 and September 12. Any further change of dates tabled for now.

e. House demolition – trail use for dumpster. Tabled indefinitely pending property acquisition.

f. Logo Use Policy –committee of Phil, Bernie and Sandy are to review and suggest an update to our policy. No report.

g. Adopt a Mile –More volunteers and a formal policy which Darla is working on are needed.

h. Benches – Proposed signage design and material for benches that have been purchased to honor or memorialize people was approved for purchase. (Conners/Moss).

#### **11. New Business**

- a. May 21<sup>st</sup> Jr. Achievement Run in New Bethlehem approved (Conners/Moss)

b. Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> is National Bike Trail Day – Bob Moss will investigate for a possible event .  
(Conners/Moss)

**12. Executive Session** The Board moved to executive session. (Conners/Moss) and discussed a possible encroachment on the Sligo Spur and logging work in Heathville.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Sandy Mateer, Acting Secretary

Minutes Approved: February 1, 2016