

Redbank Valley Trails Association

Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2016

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with 16 in attendance at the Brookville Presbyterian Church. Board members present were Phil Hynes, Darla Kirkpatrick, Bernie Marocco, Sandy Mateer, Robert Moss, and Galen Shirey. Board members absent and excused were: Patrick Conners Sr., Chuck Marsh and Ty Poster. RVTA members in attendance were Pam and Dave Henderson, Robert Hughes, Terry Mateer and John Pozza. Also in attendance were Robert and Charlotte Carnes, Melinda Hall, Bruce Sykes and Laura Lynn Yohe (reporting for Jeffersonian Democrat).

1. **Goals and objectives** were read by Bob Moss.
2. **Monthly Meeting Minutes.** The minutes of the Board meeting of October 3, 2016, were approved as written. (Hynes/Moss)
3. **Treasurer's Report.** Report for October was presented and accepted to be filed for audit. Accounts payable were approved as follows: \$378.00 payable to J&J Feeds and Needs for gates, \$34.57 payable to Bradigans for tractor fuel for mowing, \$822.56 payable to Heeter Lumber, (\$356.74 for gates and \$465.81 for bench construction and installation) and \$275.00 to Cincinnati Insurance for tractor liability and property insurance. (Shirey/Marocco) The family and friends of Linda King who contributed to RVTA as a memorial were thanked for their generosity. Phil will work on placement and construction of a memorial shelter in consultation with Ken King.
4. **Public Comments.** Melinda Hall and Bruce Sykes of Habitat for Humanity/Neighbors for Neighbors, Brookville presented a request for a joint annual fundraising event with RVTA on June 17 to coincide with the Laurel Festival. Discussion followed. The fundraising committee will pursue further discussions.
5. **Volunteer Hours.** Members and volunteers were asked to report hours on paper or via website.
6. **Grant Updates**
 - a. Climax Tunnel: Letting date of 12/1/2016 was announced with notice to proceed of 2/27/2017.
 - b. Moore Rd. Kayak Launch. Large sign was installed. Directional signs will be installed soon.
 - c. Phil reported on Brookville spur progress and remaining items to include parking improvements, bike racks & picnic table shelter. Phil will coordinate with Fire Department re: access needs.
 - d. Penn Vest and St. Charles grant work has been completed but will require monitoring to make any claims under the bond for one year ending in about September 2016.
 - e. NWC Grant application for Sligo Spur Improvements was filed. Awards are to be announced in December.
 - f. The Penn Vest grant application by Clarion County Conservation District for the upstream ramp of Middle Run and bollards should be announced soon.
7. **Non-grant updates;** 2016 Projects-To Do List. The following projects were discussed:
 - a. Ray Doverspike Memorial Fund Project – Gary Kirkpatrick coordinated construction of picnic and Adirondack shelters built in the trail corridor near Long Point tunnel to honor Ray. Finishing touches should be completed by the end of November.
 - b. Designation for Horse Use – No report.
 - c. Proposal to remove dead ash and elm trees – Deferred.
 - d. Middle Run downstream ramp project estimate - A proposal is requested from Mark Kirkpatrick.
 - e. Middle Run to Fairmount City and AMD issue - No report. Galen will check with DEP and property owners on status of project. A Growing Greener grant due Jan. 13, 2017 is to be considered.

- f.. Mile and historic markers, benches, signs – 3 new benches have been installed. Looking for locations for additional markers.
- g. Vegetation Management – Will offer a 5-mile credit for next year if selected.
- h. Sherry Crossing Agreement –Awaiting call from Mr. Sherry to discuss agreement.
- i. HRRMA Sewage Line Project – Galen Shirey met with Bob Hayes of Senate and will follow up on needed corrections.
- j. Sligo Spur improvements – Gary Kirkpatrick is working with Union H.S. Outdoor Club.
- k. Porter Township Bond/St. Charles bond was released and \$25 credit issued.
- l. Trespass violation in Hawthorn –Local police are pursuing. Improvement have been noted. Vandal and trespasser at Lawsonham was identified. Action is being pursued by State Police.
- m. Darla and Bernie reported on the meeting with Shaun Wessel and Summerville Borough regarding storm water drainage and erosion at west side of State Street. It was noted that Mark Kirkpatrick has been digging out the ditch and repairing the erosion for the last several years on a regular basis. More permanent solutions were suggested including digging a 700-foot ditch and notifying owners via the Borough Council to stop dumping yard waste into ditch. Mark is to be asked if he would be willing to do the work.
- n. A motion was approved for Bernie Marocco to sign and send a letter to North Central Regional Planning Commission to request use of their GIS mapping system to be used to create a database with coordinates and data for all infrastructure and features along the trail. (Shirey/Hynes).
- o. Phil Hynes suggested installation of a counter along the trail to determine number of trail users. Mateer reported on the possibility of getting counters from RTC or Redbank Renaissance.

8. Events & Promotion

- a. Fundraiser & Event scheduling – October 8th Tour de Brookville, YMCA's Color Run and Chamber's Family Fun Rides were reported as successful.
- b. Pam Henderson provided the annual fundraiser committee report. A 2nd meeting date was scheduled.
- c. Picnic table and shelter costs – A motion was made and approved to ask \$600 for a memorial donation for a sturdily built, handicapped accessible picnic table with tables to be purchased. (Hynes/Moss). Phil, Darla and Galen agreed to work on a design and cost for a bus type shelter for escape from inclement weather.

9. Old Business/To Do List

- a. Rutkowski and Melvin Neiswonger crossing agreement – In progress.
- b. Logo use policy – No update
- c. Adopt the Trail program – No update.
- d. Bernie presented a revised draft of the Maintenance Manual. Sections on mowing and invasive species information is to be added.
- e. Methods for clearing trail and drainage ditches of leaves and sticks were discussed.

10. New Business

- a. Proposed grant projects for 2017 include the Growing Greener grant for Fairmount City due in January, equipment purchases and a possible Penn Vest drainage project for New Bethlehem to Mile 19.
- b. Maintenance needs – Crushed limestone from Heathville to Mayport and Mile 19 to 20.
- c. The proposed 2017 budget was presented for review. Discussion was deferred to December.

11. Executive Session – Updates were given on several pending matters regarding the Columbia Gas Company crossing at Lawsonham, a request by DCNR and a possible joint effort with a local municipal authority.

The meeting was adjourned by motion at 9:20 PM. (Shirey/Marocco).
Respectfully Submitted,

s/ Sandy Mateer

Sandy Mateer, Acting Secretary

Minutes Approved: December 9, 2016