

Redbank Valley Trails Association Meeting Minutes – February 6, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with 13 in attendance at the New Bethlehem Presbyterian Church. Board members present were Phil Hynes, Bernie Marocco, Chuck Marsh, Sandy Mateer, Robert Moss and Galen Shirey. RVTA members in attendance were Patti Hanna, Gary Kirkpatrick, Sandy Marsh, Terry Mateer and Brenda Shick. Frank Lamanna, Laura Lynn Yohe (reporting for Jeffersonian Democrat) were also present. Board member Pat Conners, Sr. was absent and Ty Poster was absent and excused.

1. Goal & Objectives were read by Bob Moss.
2. The meeting minutes for the Board meeting of January 2, 2017, were approved as written. (Hynes/Marocco)
3. Treasurer's Report – Report was previously sent. A summary was presented. A motion was made to accept the report for audit. (Moss/Marsh)
4. Public Comments – In response to questions, it was noted that the USGS site for St. Charles notes water levels (2.8' required to float), the website includes directions around the Climax Tunnel, dogs are required to be leashed and owners to remove pet's waste from the trail. There was discussion of a possible access route to the trail at Oak Ridge to avoid SR 28.
5. Grant Updates
 - a. Climax Tunnel - It was noted that work on the tunnel liner had begun with work scheduled to be completed by the end of August.
 - b. Brookville Spur - Phil reported on plans for a picnic table cover and requested design and cost info for the shelter at Long Point. Funds remain from the grant for parking lot improvements and the shelter roof.
 - c. Clarion Conservation District representatives were not successful with the Growing Greener grant application due 1-13-17 for drainage work between Liberty St. and Bostonia Spur.
6. Non-grant updates; 2017 Projects
 - a. Middle Run downstream ramp work may be on hold until the DEP work is completed.
 - b. Sandy reported that the Middle Run to Fairmount City DEP improvements for AMD remediation should proceed in 2017.
 - c. HRRMA Water Line Project – It was reported that AVL T and their attorney had approved the water line plan revision.
 - d. Summerville drainage problem at west side of State Street –Galen will try to address and clear ditches when tractor is available.
8. Events & Promotion –
 - a. Annual fundraiser. It was suggested an event be held on National Trails Day June 3rd.
 - b. Shelter – Scout Colby George will present a shelter proposal.
 - c. Work days for ditch cleaning will be scheduled as weather permits.
 - d. Board members were reminded of the invitation to the Eagle Scout ceremony Feb. 19.
 - e. The annual clean up day was set for April 22nd without objection.
 - f. Board members were encouraged to attend the Jeff Co. Comprehensive Plan meeting on March 22 at 6-8 pm at the Heritage Center to promote the PA Wilds West Trail connection.

9. Old Business/To Do List

a. Maintenance Guide – The draft guide had been sent to all Board members for review. A motion was made to approve the Guide, subject to revisions by Feb. 12th for submission to AVL T for review and approval. (Hynes/Moss)

b. Vegetation Control – It was agreed that if possible spraying will be deferred until August or early September.

10. New Business

a. Without objection Chuck Marsh was appointed as the liaison to the Clarion Co. Trails Association and Galen Shirey was appointed as the alternate delegate to EPTA.

b. Galen will inspect the washout repair at mile 18 for any needed remedial action.

c. Members were asked to suggest corrections to the map for reprinting in late March.

d. Chuck will investigate equipment for leaf removal from trail and ditches.

11. Executive Session –

a. NWC Grant Sligo Spur Improvements – An outlined plan of action was discussed and approved by consensus.

b. The requested crossing at Heathville for timbering was discussed and approved by consensus.

c. The crossing at Wildcat and logging was discussed at length with access to be negotiated and reviewed and approved by AVL T. Additional info will be needed as to desired access for logging.

d. A policy regarding controls on expenses was adopted by consensus to include board approval for purchases, purchases from vendors made by board members only or funds provided directly to a volunteer out of which expenses were to be taken.

e. The meeting on the peer to peer study required by DCNR is scheduled for March 1st.

f. Sandy will contact Rimersburg regarding their request for access at the 861 crossing to the sewer plant.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/ Sandy Mateer

Sandy Mateer, Acting Secretary

Minutes Approved: March 7, 2017