

Redbank Valley Trails Association

Meeting Minutes – March 6, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM with 10 in attendance at the Brookville Presbyterian Church. Board members present were Phil Hynes, Bernie Marocco, Sandy Mateer, and Galen Shirey. Chuck Marsh was available by phone. RVTA members in attendance were Robert Hughes, Ken King, Terry Mateer and L. David Richards. Laura Lynn Yohe (reporting for Jeffersonian Democrat) and Robert Carnes were also present. Board member Pat Conners, Sr. was absent and Ty Poster, Chuck Marsh and Robert Moss were absent and excused.

1. Goal & Objectives were read by Phil Hynes.
2. The meeting minutes for the Board meeting of February 6, 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. (Hynes/Shirey). A motion to reimburse Volunteer Gary Kirkpatrick for expended tools and fuel costs for the tractor up to \$200 was approved (Hynes/Marocco). As approved at the last meeting: The policy of controls on expenditures includes 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 so that tax exempt status can be claimed to the maximum extent possible. Reimbursements to volunteers requires Board approval.
4. Public Comments – L. David Richards offered a gift certificate for a personalized walking stick as a fundraiser. Ken King discussed the location of the picnic shelter he would like to place near mile 38.5 in memory of his wife Linda. Some concern was expressed that the crushed sandstone mixed with limestone placed from the Rose Siding Bridge west was wearing thin.
5. Grant Updates
 - a. Climax Tunnel - It was noted that work on the tunnel liner was underway with work scheduled to be completed before the end of August or sooner. A motion was made and approved to authorize Sandy Mateer and Bernie Marocco to approve bills received by AVL T's from Senate Engineering for Construction Inspection and Design work on the Climax Tunnel (Shirey/Hynes).
 - b. Brookville Spur - Phil reported on plans for a picnic table shelter at the Depot Street Trailhead.
 - c. NWC Sligo Spur Grant – Litter clean up on the spur is needed. Gary Kirkpatrick will lead volunteers on decking and railing of the Cherry Run Bridge. A motion was made and approved to contract with KTH, Inc. to perform grubbing, clearing and invasive remediation from Walker Farm Road to SR 861 at a cost of \$5500 (Shirey/Marocco).
 - d. A Trail Volunteer Fund Grant for \$5000 was submitted, approved and received on March 6, 2017 for decking and railing materials on the two trestles on the lower spur.
 - e. A Doppelt Family Trail Development Fund grant application for crushed limestone on the lower spur was submitted with announcements due on June 1st, however it was noted that over 200 applications were received.
 - f. A Clarion Co. Tourism Grant was submitted for assistance with new maps. Announcements are due in April.
6. Non-grant updates; 2017 Projects
 - a. Middle Run downstream ramp work is on hold until DEP work is completed.

b. Sandy reported that the Middle Run to Fairmount City DEP improvements for AMD remediation should proceed in 2017 as all necessary documents have now been signed by AVL T.

c. HRRMA Water Line Project – Bison Contracting will be doing the work and will keep us informed of any impact on trail use.

d. Headwall repair with ties on culverts on main trail – It was agreed that we would not purchase ties in bulk but could purchase them as needed for less than \$8/tie.

e. Summerville drainage problem at west side of State Street –Galen will try to address and clear ditches when tractor is available.

f. Depot Street – Brookville Borough was able to remove the large downed tree and repair the trail on the Borough Section of trail. Some additional crushed limestone may be needed to complete the repair.

g. Bernie Marocco reported that property corners were missing at the Rose Siding area. He will attempt to relocate and mark them.

7. Events & Promotion –

a. Maps – Corrections on the map were requested.

b. Annual fundraiser. It was suggested events be held on Opening Day, April 8th and National Trails Day June 3rd.

c. Shelter – Scout Colby George will present a shelter proposal as his Eagle Scout project.

d. Work days for ditch cleaning and litter pickup will be scheduled as weather permits.

e. The annual clean up day is April 22nd. Board members will contact groups for assistance and participation.

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.

8. Old Business/To Do List -

a. Maintenance Guide – Ron Steffey’s and AVL T’s comments on the draft guide were reported.

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

c. Chuck will investigate equipment for leaf removal from trail and ditches. The design created by the Armstrong Conservation District was discussed.

9. New Business

a. State Historic Marker – Bernie presented information on a suggested historic marker for Olean Trail which crosses the trail near Leatherwood Station (formerly Broken Rock Station). It was suggested that an historic marker similar to the ones on the trail could be placed there along with one referencing the rail station if the State marker proved infeasible.

b. Linda King Memorial Picnic Shelter- The shelter was approved for a location South of Coder near mile 38.5 subject to cost estimates and AVL T approval. (Hynes/Shirey) Ken King will flag the area and Bernie will mark the site on a map. Ken will also send a photo of the proposed location. It is located near the Puckerty Joe homestead site and the Nicholas J. Pozza bridge.

c. A motion was made and approved by consensus to appoint Phil Hynes as chair and Ken King and Galen Shirey as the nominating committee for the 4 open Board seats for election at the May meeting. Board positions open include 3 3-year terms (Phil, Galen and Ty) and 1 1-year term to 2018.

d. Bernie reported that the Old Methodist Church Group would like to host a fall event on the trail in the Heathville area. He has provided them with the application form. Following a

comment from the public that groups should be charged for usage to help support the trail, it was noted that donations of funds and volunteer help are welcomed.

10. Executive Session –

a. The meeting on March 1st on the study required by DCNR for conveyance approval was discussed.

b. The requested crossing and use of the trail at Heathville for logging was discussed. It was noted that a time frame and more information would be needed as well as application of 3 inches of crushed limestone might be needed if allowed.

c. The crossing and access at Wildcat and logging is still under negotiation. An onsite meeting will be arranged with the appropriate parties.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Sandy Mateer

Sandy Mateer, Acting Secretary

Minutes Approved: April 3, 2017