

# REDBANK VALLEY TRAILS ASSOCIATION

## Board Meeting Minutes – Monday, December 3, 2018

The board meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with 9 in attendance at the New Bethlehem Presbyterian Church. Board members present were Phil Hynes, Bernie Marocco, Sandy Mateer, Chuck Marsh, Bob Moss and Dave Smail. RVTA members in attendance were Gary Kirkpatrick Terry Mateer and Mike Reed. Galen Shirey and Ty Poster were absent and excused. Pat Conners was absent.

1. The goals and objectives were read by Sandy Mateer.

2. **Minutes.** Minutes for the Board meeting of November 5, 2018, were approved as written. (Hynes/Marocco)

3. **Treasurer's Report.** The treasurer's report was delayed and will be provided by email. The 2019 budget was presented and a motion was made and approved unanimously to approve it as presented. (Hynes/Marsh).

4. **Public Comments.** Fallen trees were discussed. Volunteers were thanked for their efforts in removing the many downed trees from the recent ice storm. It was reported that many, including several large trees are still down on the main trail between 9 and 12, downstream of 6 with a landslide near mile 2.5 and 3. The Sligo Spur has been cleared. A question was raised as to action to be taken when a valuable tree falls on the trail. The consensus of the Board was to contact the owner of the property from which it fell if known for removal and, if not known or not removed, to cut it up for removal to clear the trail. Concerns were related about ATV and snowmobile vandalism. A suggestion was made to purchase foldable bollards to place at bridges to stop snowmobile damage to trail and surface of bridges.

5. **Volunteer Hours.** Volunteers were again asked to report hours on website, by paper or email. A form was circulated to document hours for the month.

### 6. Grant Updates

a. Upper Sligo Spur – NW Commission grant status was related with only the accessible parking space and signage remaining to be done in Spring. TR Rapp was paid 90% of the contract price. The reimbursement request was filed.

b. Trail Volunteer Grant – The Cherry Run bridge approach was completed.

c. The grant request to the Trail Volunteer fund for signage and crushed limestone for the lower 3 miles of the spur was filed, approved and funds of \$14,766 were received.

### 7. Non-grant updates; 2018 Projects - To Do List

a. Fairmount City DEP improvements, AMD work was noted as being completed and that our improvements can begin to include some grading, compacting and application of crushed limestone.

b. Lower Sligo Spur Improvements – Contract with TR Rapp Excavating has been signed, contractor has begun work and hopes to have crushed limestone down by the end of the year. Grading work needs to be done by Walls and 3 modified stone needs to be added at the Rankin property where Eric Walls and Rankin created too much of a slope on the treadway from the trail to 861.

c. Middle Run ramp repair –to be discussed with contractors. Ramps are to be lowered and crushed limestone or other surfacing applied after a plan is approved and adjacent owner is notified.

d. A priority list for resurfacing was discussed. The tentative list is New Bethlehem between gate and Bostonia spur, Heathville between bridges, below Bauer Road near Hendersons' to State Street, Mayport and Depot Street, with greater specificity to be determined as funding permits.

e. 2 more trail counters are expected via IHTC and RTC to be placed in Brookville and Summerville after receipt of software.

f. PUC required sign installations were completed except for Solida and Lobaugh Hill Rd. intersections on Sligo Spur pending completion of grading work. PUC was notified.

## **8. Events & Promotion**

- a. Brookville work day. Volunteers intend to suspend for the winter. Orange Patrol will be utilized in Spring as available.
- b. Main Trail and Sligo Spur – Maintenance work will continue as volunteers are available. The need to clear ditches was discussed to avoid damming and overflow before Spring.
- c. Mateer reported that the Climax Tunnel Historic Preservation visit was on Nov. 8, 2018 with a video to be produced.
- d. Bridge markers and historic markers need to be installed on an upcoming workday.

## **9. Old Business/To Do List.**

- a. Colby George Eagle Scout Picnic Shelter-Final approval has not yet been requested nor given. Dave Smail will speak with Scout leader regarding final paperwork and exterior finish.
- b. Parking at Baxter remains to be expanded and the remaining bollard moved further back.
- c. Kayak Launch grant was filed for Brookville with letters of support. Summerville was provided with information and will likely be pursued by their fire department.
- d. Maintenance needs were noted in Summerville mile 33-34, State Street, Bauer Road, ditch cleaning and pipe installations, a township pipe at Bauer Rd. near Hendersons' was noted as plugged and it was suggested to contact Lloyd Page as Road Supervisor. A plank was replaced at the Pozza/Puckerty Joe bridge at mile 38 with a need for inspection and more boards to be replaced.

## **10. New Business**

- a. Mateer reported on #Giving Tuesday on November 27<sup>th</sup> and the annual December challenge. An annual event was discussed including an auction or cookie ride.
- b. Conveyance status was noted as awaiting approval from DCNR.
- c. Sligo Walker Farm Road proposed closure- no report nor update.
- d. Sligo Spur/Rimersburg Borough and Municipal Authority access request on the south side of 861 is no longer being considered. The Heeter property purchase and vegetation dump access was discussed with concerns raised about the proposed purchase and possibly inaccurate survey. It was agreed to call a meeting with the parties.
- e. It was noted that Gary Kirkpatrick's drag appears to have been stolen from Lawsonham.
- f. A Doppelt grant filing was approved by consensus to possibly include surfacing with coal combustible byproducts for ramps at Middle Run, folding bollards and crushed limestone for resurfacing.
- g. Phil reported on efforts to widen Depot Street parking area.
- h. ATV and snowmobile access from St. Charles downstream was discussed with purchase of foldable bollards to be considered, possibly for construction by Tech School or local contractor.
- i. Funds remaining on the Towns & Trails grant funding was discussed with the consensus that TODs signage might be needed at Moore Road but that directional signage at Summerville might be installed on a building off of the right of way, with directional signage of some type needed also at Baxter and Climax.
- j. A 2019 retreat or social gathering was discussed for discussion of future goals.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM. (Hynes/Marsh).

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Sandy Mateer

Sandy Mateer, Acting Secretary

Minutes Approved: January 7, 2019