

REDBANK VALLEY TRAILS ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes – Monday, February 4, 2019

The board meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with 16 in attendance at the New Bethlehem Presbyterian Church. Board members present were Phil Hynes, Sandy Mateer, Chuck Marsh, Bob Moss, Galen Shirey and Dave Smail. Bernie Marocco and Ty Poster were absent and excused. RVTA members in attendance were Gary Kirkpatrick, Sandy Marsh, Terry Mateer. Others in attendance were Mike Reed, Colby and Ryan George, Sean and Quinlan Griffin and Dottie and Doug Himes.

1. The goals and objectives were read by Bob Moss.

2. **Minutes.** Minutes for the Board meeting of January 7, 2019, were approved as corrected that the kayak launch plan is to be presented to Brookville Council. (Hynes/Smail)

3. **Treasurer's Report.** The treasurer's report was provided in advance by email. A motion was made to accept the report and file for audit. (Shirey/Hynes). The following actions were approved unanimously by motions made and seconded:

a. Reimbursement of \$25.20 to Gary Kirkpatrick was approved for fuel, parts and other expenses for trail maintenance. (Shirey/Moss)

b. Up to \$80 of stain to apply to the Shelter Colby George built as his Eagle Scout Project was approved for purchase and reimbursement upon presentation of invoices. (Hynes/Moss)

4. **Public Comments.**

a. Quinlan Griffin presented his Eagle Scout Project (New Bethlehem Troop 403) to install stairs and erosion prevention measures at the north side of the Trail Volunteers Bridge. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to endorse the project, allow vehicle access and allow donations to be made through the RVTA website for tax deductibility. (Shirey/Marsh) Board members will assist as needed.

b. Colby George (Brookville Troop) presented his request for approval of the Shelter he built as his Eagle Scout Project near mile 38. The project was approved by motion contingent upon completion of staining with a dark stain on the exterior walls of the shelter. (Hynes/Moss)

c. Doug Himes, Dottie Himes and Gary Kirkpatrick presented a project to convert the Mortimer Run Bridge into a covered bridge to be paid in full by an anonymous donor who will be given the naming rights to the bridge. It was noted that AVL T approved the project contingent upon RVTA's approval of the donation and design. Volunteer help was welcomed. They also obtained approval of AVL T and others to use downed Hemlock trees for the materials, with metal braces from Charles Machine and a green metal roof. Permission was given provided that the width of the bridge will not be narrowed. Volunteer help was requested.

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. **New Business.** a. Calendar for 2019 will remain the same, with exception that September meeting will be on September 9th instead of on Labor Day.

b. A motion to accept the resignation of Pat Connors from the Board was unanimously approved. (Shirey/Smail). A nominating committee of Ty, Chuck and Galen was appointed to fill the vacancy and terms coming up at the May annual meeting.

c. The Conflict of Interest resolution was circulated for execution.

7. **Grant Updates**

a. Trail Volunteer Grant – PUC signage and crushed limestone grant for the lower Sligo Spur was received. Almost all signage has been installed. Crushed limestone will be applied when grading and drainage improvements of the lower 3 miles from SR 861 has been completed.

b. Upper Sligo Spur – NW Commission grant. Only an accessible parking space and signage remains to be done in Spring. A partial reimbursement has been received. A motion was made and approved to pay TR Rapp the remaining 10% of the contract price that is due. (Shirey/Moss)

c. Grant opportunities – DCNR C2P2 was discussed with no application to be filed.

- d. Eccles Foundation – Grant was filed on two days’ notice for \$10,000 in equipment and improvements. No information has been received as to whether we will receive the grant.
- e. Doppelt Fund was due Jan. 31st and was filed for improvement of parking areas, crushed limestone and equipment.
- f. The PEC nomination for an award is due on Feb. 8th and will be filed.
- g. The Western PA Conservancy \$4000 river access grant was awarded for the kayak launch and parking area in Brookville. Dave Smail reported that a contract was provided for signature and that the site plan is to be provided to the Borough for approval.

8. Non-grant updates; 2019 Projects - To Do List

- a. Phil Hynes will call Penn Dot regarding the plugged storm sewers on State Street in Summerville that are causing erosion on the western side of the trail crossing.
- b. Work needs to be scheduled for drainage work at Yount Road.
- c. Fairmount City DEP AMD work was noted as being completed and that our improvements can begin, to include some grading, compacting and application of crushed limestone. Middle Run ramp repair is 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. Resurfacing remains pending good weather: New Bethlehem between gate and Bostonia spur, Heathville between bridges, in Summerville below Bauer Road near Hendersons’ to State Street, Mayport and Depot Street, with greater specificity to be determined as funding permits.
- e. Bridge markers and historic markers need to be installed.
- f. Parking at Baxter needs to be enlarged with bollards moved back.
- g. Bridge decking needs to be inspected and boards replaced. Mike R. volunteered to review.

9. Events & Promotion

- a. Towns and Trails Regional Initiative. The next phase will include TODS signage most likely at Moore Road and possibly at Summerville unless signage on a building can be arranged. An April meeting is to be scheduled.
- b. IHTC PA Wilds Loop Meeting was scheduled for Jan. 8th in Clarion with Bernie in attendance.
- c. May 9, 2019 will be the Redbank Valley Day of Giving.
- d. The need for a fundraising event was discussed.
- e. Bernie was thanked for his work on the new kayak launch and creek trail maps.

10. Old Business/To Do List.

- a. Work days will be set weather permitting or as otherwise needed. Time and place to be determined.
- b. New historic markers were discussed and might include: Baxter, Hawthorn Grist mill, Sligo Spur and grist mill, Leatherwood Station and Olean/Broken Rock Indian trail. It was suggested that Ken Burkett be contacted for information and assistance.

11. Executive Session. Galen Shirey/S. Mateer moved to go to executive session. The Conveyance Study status was discussed with no action taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM. (Hynes/Moss).

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Sandy Mateer
Sandy Mateer, Acting Secretary

Minutes Approved: March 4, 2019