

August 14, 2017 MARC Meeting Minutes

MARC Attendees:

BOARD MEMBERS

Ken Holdren
Frank Dombroski
Joe Ward
Vic Marks
Mike Mills
Chris Johns
Heather Good
Kevin Herr

STAFF

Bob Stoudt

Public:

Lloyd Bunch
Jody Callahan and members/students of the Mooresburg Presbyterian Church

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by Mike Mills.

*Meeting began with a check presentation by Jody Callahan and members/students of the Mooresburg Presbyterian Church. They presented Bob and Mike with a check for \$408.74.

OFFICER REPORTS

Chairman's Report

Mike Mills thanked Jody and expressed MARC's gratitude for the donation. He noted the next meeting will be September 11.

Treasurer's Report

Ken Holdren reviewed the financial accounts with the board. He made special note of page 15 / Act 13 donation (increase). Motion to approve: Ken Holdren. Seconded: Frank Dombroski. Motion carried.

Secretaries Report

Motion to approve: Ken Holdren Seconded: Dr. Marks. Motion carried.

PARTNER REPORTS

Washingtonville Borough

Frank stated the 2nd order of banners have been received and corrections made. There has been continued vandalism of the ball fields. Trail and surveillance cams have been installed.

Danville Borough

Kevin discussed updates to the LL baseball field concession stand – now in between the fields. A brief discussion also took place about the state of the CDBG funds to repair the Beaver Place bridge. Bob also noted he had spoken with Jamie Shrawder about potential updates to the levee.

Riverside Borough

Signs to the river boat launch and parking spots have been completed. Special thanks to Riverside Borough for their assistance in making this happen.

Montour County

Landowner dispute along the North Branch Canal Trail is ongoing.

Danville Area School District

Chris gave an update on the stadium upgrades on the high school campus. The turf portion of the project is scheduled for completion at the end of the month. The track portion will be completed in September.

Chris also gave an update about the new mountain biking team partnership with DASD, MARC, and Riverside Adventure Company. To date, practices have begun in July and there are approximately 15 members of the team. The first race is scheduled for Sept. 9 in Maryland.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Stoudt read aloud an emailed update from Jon Beam, noting the recent programs conducted at the Preserve. Beam was on vacation during much of the previous month.

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

Mike Mills noted highlights of Dennis Piatt's report in the meeting agenda packet.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Stoudt noted highlights of the Director's Report in the agenda packet, as well as an update regarding turf damage at Hess Field after recent special events. Ongoing wet weather led to rutting of the turf by vehicles entering/exiting the fields. Stoudt and staff will repair as soon as conditions allow.

OLD BUSINESS

East Branch Recreation Area Lease

Bob met with executives from Talen Energy to discuss options about the situation. After extensive discussion about the status of the East Branch Recreation Area lease, there was a motion made by Ken Holdren to terminate the lease due to escalating costs with no reimbursement. Motion by: Ken Holdren. Seconded by: Frank Dombroski. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OTHER ITEMS

Commonwealth of PA / DCNR Grant Funding for the Montour Preserve

Stoudt reported that MARC had been notified that it would receive an additional \$100,000 in grant funding for the Montour Preserve, bringing the Commonwealth's total pledged contribution to \$300,000. However, Stoudt further reported that MARC was told to expect no additional state funding for the Preserve due to the ongoing budget challenges.

PA Association of Realtors Grant for Hopewell Park Bike Jumps Project

Stoudt reported that MARC had been granted \$3,000 by the PA Association of Realtors to construct the bike jumps area at Hopewell Park. MARC must first incur the expenses before being reimbursed, so Stoudt will submit an expense report for project expenses when the project is complete and grant reimbursement has been received.

Central Susquehanna Hammers Interscholastic Mountain Bike Team Update

Stoudt reported that Dave Decoteau had reported a total of 15 team members and an additional eight possible candidates. The team is progressing very well, exceeding early expectations.

Chilli Challenge Planning

Stoudt reported that only one person had registered for the Chilli Challenge (scheduled for 9/30) so far. Stoudt discussed long-term trends with the race and cautioned that MARC may need to cancel the race if it seems certain that MARC will lose money on the event. Stoudt will provide an update at the September 14 meeting.

River Towns Race Series

Stoudt reviewed the participation trends of River Towns Races. A discussion was held in order to best determine which races to keep in the future. The discussion was tabled until the September meeting.

North Branch Canal Trail

Stoudt reported that the subdivision documentation had been completed for the Columbia County portion of the North Branch Canal Trail. Stoudt will contact Montour Township, Columbia County to submit the documentation for review and approval.

Hess Field Drug Activity

Stoudt reported the discovery of meth making / use at the Hess Field restrooms on July 21. Local law enforcement from Mahoning Township, Danville Borough, Montour County Sherriff's Office and the District Attorney's Office responded to the scene, as well as the State Police Crime Lab. Stoudt will contact the Sherriff's Office to learn whether grant funds might exist to help fund the purchase and installation of surveillance cameras at the site.

Danville Levee Trails

Stoudt reported recent discussions with Danville Borough regarding the possible addition of asphalt surfacing on the Borough's levees (those portions which must be raised for certification) for pedestrian / bicycle use. Stoudt will work with the Borough to seek grant funding to fund the possible work.

ADJOURNMENT

President Mike Mills adjourned the meeting at 8:02pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C.D. Johns', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher D. Johns
MARC Board Secretary
8/14/17