

April 26, 2021 Meeting Minutes

*NOTE: This meeting was conducted through the Zoom meeting platform due to COVID-19 restrictions.
No in-person meeting was held.*

MEETING ATTENDEES

MARC BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. John Bulger, Frank Dombroski, Tyler Dombroski, Heather Good, Kevin Herritt,
Commissioner Dan Hartman, Brett Johnson, Kyle Postupack, Chadd Roadarmel, Larry Robertson,
Kevin Romansik

MARC STAFF

Bob Stoudt

PUBLIC

Otto Kurecian (CMVB), Aaron Stagliano (McKonly & Asbury), Chad Roeder (McKonly & Asbury),
Hannah Reavy, Jay Heddings

MEDIA

Joe Sylvester (Daily Item), Eric Pehowic (Danville News), Geri Gibbons (Press-Enterprise)

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Tyler Dombroski.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

OFFICER REPORTS

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Dombroski noted that he and Stoudt continue to meet regularly for approval of bills and updates on ongoing projects.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Dr. Bulger and Stoudt reviewed the Treasurer's report provided as pages 2 – 15 of the meeting agenda packet. No questions or concerns were noted.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report: Kevin Romansik

Second: Frank Dombroski

Motion passed unanimously

Chad Roeder and Aaron Stagliano from McKonly & Asbury reviewed in detail MARC's 2020 audit, as provided on pages 16 – 30 of the meeting agenda packet. As noted in the audit documentation, McKonly & Asbury reported no significant difficulties in dealing with MARC's management during the audit, but noted material weaknesses in MARC's internal controls. It is recommended that MARC's Board continue to approve disbursements and review financial information on a regular basis.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

In the absence of Secretary Johns, Chairman Dombroski called the group's attention to the minutes of the March 22, 2021 meeting as distributed with the meeting agenda packet.

Motion to approve the March 22, 2021 meeting minutes: Dr. John Bulger

Second: Chadd Roadarmel

Motion passed unanimously

PARTNER REPORTS

WASHINGTONVILLE BOROUGH

Chairman Dombroski noted that Stoudt continues to help with small maintenance projects within the borough. Mr. Dombroski thanked Stoudt for securing \$1,000 in Youth in Philanthropy grant funding for the Chillisquaque Creek access project and reported that the borough hopes to conduct a community cleanup day in June on a date yet to be determined.

Frank Dombroski noted the heavier use of the DeLong Park ballfield and the ongoing heavier use of DeLong Park. Mr. Dombroski reported that the borough had been able to clean up and dispose of junk during MARC's April 24 cleanup event.

DANVILLE BOROUGH

Kevin Herritt noted that Danville Borough staff are working to complete preliminary steps required for the completion of the Danville levee-top trail, including outreach to representatives of the Danville Area Community Center (related to the Danville Soccer Park) and Washies' Fire Company (related to the Washies' Playground).

Chadd Roadarmel noted that the Hess Recreation Area cleanup event was very successful and that the park looked excellent. Mr. Roadarmel asked whether MARC or Danville Borough had considered removing more of the dead trees at the Hess Recreation Area to proactively address wildfire concerns. Stoudt discussed MARC's policy of felling dead trees that present hazards to the public along trails, roads, sports fields, and other areas of heavy use, but allowing dead trees to remain standing as wildlife habitat in areas away from public use. Stoudt reported that numerous diseases and pests have contributed to an increasing number of dead trees at all MARC-operated sites, but noted that MARC had no planned strategy to remove the woody debris from the sites. Stoudt noted that MARC would face challenges with securing landowner permissions for property disposal and would face logistical, safety, and legal challenges if it wished to do so.

RIVERSIDE BOROUGH

Kevin Romansik noted that Riverside Borough Council did not meet last month, but that he would pass along to Council MARC's offer to assist with recreational features at the former school property recently acquired by the borough.

MONTOUR COUNTY

Commissioner Dan Hartman reported that work continues to draft the legal documentation required for the ongoing landowner dispute along the North Branch Canal Trail.

DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

No report – no representative in attendance.

MAHONING TOWNSHIP

Larry Robertson reported that Mahoning Township had nothing new to report. Mr. Robertson noted that Mahoning Township had worked with LIVIC Civil for engineering of the Bald Top Road reconstruction project and had used soil nailing because it was believed to be a better long-term solution. Mr. Robertson noted that other, less expensive options such as mats were considered, but believed to possibly be less effective in that location. MARC may consider similar options for the damaged section of the Hess Loop Trail at the Hess Recreation Area.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Report provided in the meeting agenda packet.

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

Reports provided in the meeting agenda packet.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Report provided in meeting agenda packet.

Stoudt reported that the Montour Solar One project had recently announced a \$30,000 donation to MARC toward the Montour Preserve. This donation will be made at the start of project construction. Other organizations to receive support from this first phase of the project's Community Benefits Program include the Columbia-Montour Area Vocational Technical School, Montour Veterans Emergency Fund, and the Northern Montour Recreation Association. Stoudt expressed MARC's thanks for the project's support of these organizations serving Montour County.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

STOUDT EXPENSE REPORT APPROVAL

Stoudt requested reimbursement for \$3,830.78 in expenses as documented on pages 43 – 48 of the meeting agenda packet.

Motion to approve reimbursement: Kevin Herritt

Second: Chadd Roadarmel

Motion passed unanimously

SEASONAL MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN POSITION ADVERTISING

Stoudt requested approval to advertise for a Seasonal Maintenance Technician position as documented on pages 54 – 55 of the meeting agenda packet. MARC's staff will conduct interviews before MARC's May 24 meeting and Stoudt will present a recommendation for Board consideration at the May 24 Board meeting.

Motion to approve advertising the Seasonal Maintenance Technician position: Commissioner Dan Hartman

Second: Chadd Roadarmel

Motion passed unanimously

SUMMER INTERNSHIP POSITION

Stoudt requested approval to renew the Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania Internship Agreement as documented on pages 56 – 59 of the meeting agenda packet and to select an intern for the summer term, to be paid a \$2,500 stipend at the successful completion of the internship term.

Motion to approve renewal of the Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania Internship Agreement, selection of an intern, and a stipend payment of \$2,500 at the completion of the internship term: Commissioner Dan Hartman

Second: Brett Johnson

Motion passed unanimously

MONTOUR PRESERVE WATERCRAFT CONCESSIONAIRE AGREEMENT

Stoudt requested approval of the Montour Preserve Watercraft Concessionaire Agreement as documented on pages 60 – 67 of the meeting agenda packet. If approved, the Riverside Adventure Company may begin watercraft concession operations at the Montour Preserve as soon as May 1.

Motion to approve the Montour Preserve Watercraft Concessionaire Agreement: Kevin Herritt

Second: Brett Johnson

Motion passed unanimously

OTHER ITEMS

Stoudt thanked new board member Brett Johnson for his service and attendance.

Stoudt noted the possibility of offering an in-person meeting option next month at the Montour Preserve if internet service can be repaired in time and if COVID conditions allow.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Dombroski adjourned the meeting at 7:58pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Stoudt

Director / Acting Secretary