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**Meeting Minutes January 9, 2020
Lamplighter Restaurant, Delmont, PA**

Meeting Attendees:

- a. Board: (15) Rob Cronauer, Gordon Conn, Tom Dittman, Eileen Elicker, Rick Fisher, Alyssa Harden, Ted Hayes, Kerry Jobe, Jack Maher, Monica Meehan, Dorothea Motto, Mary Grace Muster, Bill O' Hara, Chris Panichella, Anna Marie Stackiewicz
 - b. Guests: Dolores O' Hara, Chad Emahizer, Wendy Davis, Jeff Matthews, Dan Barber, Rudy Kuboslay, Bob Stitckiewicz, Lori Doran, Pat Norton, Michael Bertonaschi, Steve Ising, Ann Wade, Cindy Wittman, Chris Leo, Ginny Hayes, Jeff Richards, Malcolm Sias, and others
1. Vice-President Rob Cronauer led the recitation of "The Pledge of Allegiance" and then called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
 2. Presidents' Comments – None.
 3. Public Input/Introductions – None.
 4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. A motion was made to approve the December minutes by Dittman, 2nd by Muster, motion carried, minutes approved.
 5. Treasurer's Report – Jack Maher
 - a. Both the November and December treasurer reports were officially presented, since Treasurer Jack Maher and Assistant Treasurer Todd Tansimore were absent at the December meeting.
 - b. For the month of November, WHT had \$72,000 in total assets. The designated funds acquired from parking volunteers were transferred to the Capital Reserve Fund.
 - c. For the month of December, WHT had \$71,000 in total assets (taking into account the depreciation on the storage container and Ventrac mower), and \$16,000 in the checking account.
 - d. In regards to the year-end overview, the trail had a gross profit of \$56,000, which was up \$13,000 from 2018. There was \$30,000 in expenses, down \$9,000 from 2018. The trail's net income was \$25,000, up \$22,000 from 2018. 2019 was a fantastic year! Over the past five years, there has been an increase in income and expenses in equivalent amounts on account of the trail doing a whole lot more work, which means more

money! This increase has consistently left the trail in the positive with more income than expenses every year, so keep up the hard work!

- e. A motion was made to approve the November treasurer's report by Conn. 2nd by Hayes. Motion carried, November treasurer's report approved.
 - f. A motion was made to approve the December treasurer's report by Elicker. 2nd by Meehan. Motion carried, December treasurer's report approved.
6. RTC Report – Malcolm Sias & Rob Cronauer
- a. Sias reported on the RTC Annual Retreat being held on Saturday, Jan. 25 from 9:30 am to 3 pm at South Park's Buffalo Inn. The cost to attend is \$15, which includes lunch. This is a good networking opportunity with the other RTC trail chapters, who will be reporting on their work for the year. Other topics of discussion include fundraising, trail maintenance, and more. All are encouraged to attend.
7. TAT Report – No report.
8. Committee Reports
- a. Real Estate and Acquisitions – Malcolm Sias
 - i. Work is in progress to acquire a more pieces of property for the Phase V (Middle Gap) connection.
 - b. Engineering and Construction – Jeff Richards
 - i. Gibson Thomas delivered the as-built drawings for Phase IV to be kept on record at the Westmoreland Co. Parks building.
 - c. Fund Raising – Rob Cronauer
 - i. Comedy Night is coming up fast on Saturday, Feb. 15 at Colton Hall in Claridge! We need to sell 330 tickets to have a sold out event, and we have 34 sold so far. If anyone is interested in selling tickets and hasn't gotten tickets yet, talk to Rob Cronauer. As well as ticket sellers for the event itself, we are also in need of volunteers to make Chinese auction baskets, distribute flyers and for the night of to sell Chinese Auction, 50/50, serve food, etc. Any and all welcome, all help is greatly appreciated! The caterer will be Skis and Nick's as in years past.
 - ii. Chris Panichella announced that volunteers are needed to captain teams for this year's March for Parks on Saturday, March 21st. WHT will have a team again this year. Talk to Chris if you are interested in joining.
 - d. Public Relations – Wendy Davis
 - i. There are currently 1,877 Facebook followers for the WHT page.
 - ii. The 1st WHT newsletter is done and will be emailed out shortly. Any suggestions or contributions to the Spring issue are welcome and due by March 15.
 - iii. Alyssa Harden reported that the website is still functioning well.
 - iv. Cronauer reported that approximately \$1,300 of the revised Post Plaques have been sold so far. The trail is becoming known far and wide, as we recently received a post plaque application from Germany!
 - e. Membership – Gordon Conn
 - i. At the end of 2019, the trail had a total of 293 members (including 50 lifetime members and 31 ten-year members). At the end of 2018, the trail had a total of 140 members. As of today's meeting, there are 117, including the lifetime and ten-year members.

- ii. Conn asks that everyone please pay their annual dues, including all board members!
 - f. Trail Ambassadors – No report.
 - g. Trail Maintenance – Tom Dittman
 - i. The trail is in good shape!
 - ii. Shelves have been installed in the storage trailer to allow room for both the mower and new quad to be parked inside. The annual maintenance has also been taken care of for the mower.
 - iii. Monroeville will be replacing manhole covers in the near future along the trail corridor. Please use caution!
 - iv. Mike Bertonaschi reported that he and Vicki Rudge met with Trafford to empty the garbage cans near BY Park along the trail. A request was made for someone to approach Monroeville or Penn Township to take on the responsibility of emptying the garbage cans at Saunders Station since the maintenance crew no longer has the trail vehicle to carry trash in. Conn volunteered to contact Monroeville.
 - h. Delmont Visionary Committee – Anna Marie Stackiewicz
 - i. The group now has 103 likes on their Facebook page. They have a new website (<https://delmont1.wixsite.com/delmontvisionarycomm>) that has been linked on WHT website. They also have had a new logo created.
 - ii. A business survey has been started to gauge interest and ideas about the trail spur. Public surveys are being worked on as well to be posted on Facebook & the website.
 - iii. Parcels are being looked at along the WHT corridor for locating the proposed spur.
 - iv. The DVC will be sponsoring the Delmont Great American Cleanup this year. All are encouraged to volunteer. More info will be shared soon.
 - v. The DVC are also sponsoring their first fundraiser, which will be a Garden Walk & lunch event. More info will be shared soon.
 - vi. The historical log cabin in Delmont is being fixed, and the group will be planting a garden on the property.
 - vii. The next Delmont Historical Society meeting is January 27 at 7 pm at the Delmont Library.
 - viii. The next DVC meeting will be Feb. 6 at Yellowbridge Brewery. Come out to enjoy a beer and get involved!
 - ix. The Delmont Recreation Committee is partnering with Yellowbridge Brewery to hold their Chili Cook-off Fundraising event on January 26 from 12:30-5 pm. A \$10 donation will get you a ticket. If you are interested, talk to Anna Marie.
9. Old Business
- a. Absentee Ballot Voting was approved through an email vote.
 - i. Discussion followed about pros and cons of the process of email voting. Going forward, the email voting process will be more strictly used for time-sensitive or emergency voting.
 - b. Voting for Two “At Large” Board positions & Re-election of expired terms.

- i. There is a current vacancy for the Trafford Borough board representative from Rey Peduzzi's resignation. The trail is awaiting a nomination by the Borough to fill the empty spot.
- ii. Stan Rudge has been appointed the new Penn Township board representative to replace John Sopko, who recently resigned as a board member and provisional secretary. Sopko has been involved with the trail for over 10 years, and a HUGE WHT THANK YOU goes out to him for all of his hard work!
- iii. Jack Maher and Rick Fisher's 3-year board terms are expired and up for re-election.
 - 1. A motion was made by Dittman to re-elect Maher and Fisher for another 3-year term, 2nd by Motto, motion carried, members re-elected.
- iv. There are 2 open "At-Large" board positions from Megan Nelson's resignation and Stan Rudge's appointment to the Penn Township representative position. The previously closed nominations from the November board meeting were Ann Wade and Pat Norton.
 - 1. A motion was made by Conn to elect Wade and Norton to the two open "At Large" positions, 2nd by Hayes, motion carried, new board members elected for three year terms.
- c. Voting for 2020 Officers
 - i. The current slate of officers up for re-election are Stan Rudge for President, Rob Cronauer for Vice President, and Jack Maher for Treasurer. John Sopko put in his resignation as board member and provisional secretary, making secretary an open position. Officers are re-elected yearly at the January meeting.
 - ii. A motion was made by Meehan to re-elect the current slate of officers (President, Vice President, and Treasurer), 2nd by Motto, motion carried, officers re-elected for a one-year term.
 - iii. A motion was made by Maher to nominate Alyssa Harden as secretary, 2nd by Wade, motion carried, Harden elected as secretary for one-year term.

10. New Business

- a. Trail Event Reservations
 - i. Stan Rudge keeps a record of all outside event requests for the trail and reports them to RTC.
 - ii. There was a previous request that was approved for a Bataan March, however they have requested a date change to March 7, 2020.
 - 1. A motion was made to approve the date change by Maher, 2nd by Meehan, motion carried, date change approved.
 - iii. Conn raised the question of charging a reservation fee to groups that request the use of the trail for an outside event. All groups file for an event permit through Leslie at RTC and are provided with a rule list. Discussion resulted in ideas to post upcoming outside event notifications on all trail kiosks, have more trail ambassadors during these events, and to direct the groups to host their events on less busy sections of the trail.
 - iv. Stan Rudge will work on drafting a policy specific to the WHT in regards to outside trail event guidelines.

11. The next meeting will be on February 13, 2020 at the Export Italian-American Club at 7 pm.

On a motion by Maher, 2nd Muster, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alyssa Harden, Secretary