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## Meeting Minutes March 08, 2018 (Draft V2)

### Lamplighter Restaurant, Delmont, PA

1. Meeting Attendees:
  - a. Board: (12) Bob Burton, Gordon Conn, Tom Dittman, Noel Grimm, Ted Hayes, Kerry Jobe, Jack Maher, Mary Grace Muster, Megan Nelson, Bill O'Hara, Rey Peduzzi, John Sopko, Malcolm Sias (Westmoreland Co. Parks)
  - b. Guests: (22) Sandy Asturi, Sally Burton, Michael Bertonaschi, Matt Cmar, Chris Corbran, Wendy Davis, Chad Emahizer, Donald Green, Mary Grimm, Alyssa Harden, Alli Kashery, Samantha Mielo, Cameron Miller, Kristi Mitchell, Dee O'Hara, Carol Richardson, John Ruccio, Anna Marie Stackiewicz, Bob Stackiewicz, Crystal Szogi, Ron Truzzo, Carol Varley, McCain Varley
2. In the absence of President Stan Rudge and Vice President Rob Cronauer, Treasurer Jack Maher led the recitation of "The Pledge of Allegiance", and then called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
3. The board members introduced themselves and thanked all visitors for their support and interest in the trail.
4. Public Input – None
5. Approval of Minutes - A motion was made to approve the February minutes as published by Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup>O'Hara, Motion carried, Minutes approved.
6. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Treasurer, Jack Maher, reported \$50,537.58 in total assets..
  - b. Jack reported that the S&T Checking Account has \$32,385.39 as essentially "Cash on Hand".
  - c. A motion to approve the treasurer's report by Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> O'Hara, Motion carried, Report approved.
  - d. Comedy Night
    - i. Malcolm Sias reported that his was the "Best Comedy Night" ever.
    - ii. Receipts are still pending. As of this writing, Gross proceeds were \$15,789, Costs were \$6,528, Net Profit \$9,261. The profit will be shared 50/50 with our partner, The Five Star Trail, which will also reduce the checking account by approximately \$5,000.
    - iii. **A WHT Thank You!** to Rob Cronauer, Alyssa Harden and the entire Comedy Night team who worked very hard to make it a HUGE Success.

- e. Maintenance Truck Insurance
  - i. Jack Maher presented the annual Insurance bill of \$432.00 for the maintenance truck.
  - ii. A motion to pay the insurance bill by O'Hara, 2<sup>nd</sup> Conn, Motion passed, Bill Paid.
  
- 7. RTC Report – No report.
  
- 8. TAT Report – The TAT is still working on a Uniform Signage policy that is acceptable to all the member trails. This endeavor should be complete in April.
  
- 9. Eagle Scout Projects
  - a. Scout McCain Varley reported on the progress of his Carson / Braun Access Area Kiosk Project previously approved by the board.
    - i. The Kiosk has been erected and is ready to present information.
    - ii. Draft Posters of Murrysville History were displayed that will be presented in three panels of the six-panel Kiosk.
  - b. Scout Cameron Miller proposed a “Scenic Overlook” Project to be constructed near the Saunders Station Access Area.
    - i. Benches and a picnic table are included in the plan.
    - ii. A waterfall will be cleared of fallen trees to beautify a “rear” view. picturesque Turtle Creek will provide the “front” view.
    - iii. All Japanese Knot weed will be cleared and a six-foot wide path will be paved with limestone to access the mini-park.
    - iv. A motion to approve the project by Hayes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nelson, Motion Carried, Project Approved.
    - v. Treasurer Jack Maher will initiate a separate line item for the treasury to track donations and costs.
  
- 10. Committee Reports
  - a. Real Estate and Acquisitions – No Report
  - b. Engineering and Construction - No Report
  - c. Funding Raising – Rey Peduzzi
    - i. The March for Parks Fund Raiser will be held at The Murrysville Community Center March 24<sup>th</sup> this year. This location provides easier access to the WHT trail for the “Marchers and Bikers”. Please plan to attend.
    - ii. Max and Erma’s Restaurant is sponsoring a March for Parks week at their Monroeville Location. The WHT will receive 20% of all meal proceeds the week of March 25<sup>th</sup> thru 31<sup>st</sup>, Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> excluded. Patrons only need to identify themselves as WHT March for Parks supporters.

- iii. The Westmoreland Co. Arts and Heritage Festival at Twin Lakes Park will be July 5, 6, 7 & 8 this year. Please reserve the dates to volunteer for the WHT Parking Fund Raiser. Every hour of volunteer work contributes approximately \$15 to the WHT Treasury.
- d. Public Relations – Vicki Rudge
  - i. An email address for trail users to submit photos, trail observations, work parties and comments for the FaceBook page has been established: [whtpr2017@gmail.com](mailto:whtpr2017@gmail.com) Everyone is encouraged to contribute.
  - ii. The WHT Web site is now on-line [www.westmorelandheritagetrail.com](http://www.westmorelandheritagetrail.com) Please check-in often for up-to-date trail information.
- e. Membership – Gordon Conn
  - i. The WHT is beginning the 2018 Membership drive and all going well with 26 Lifetime Members, 19 Ten Year Members, 59 Family and Individual Members and one Non-Profit Group Membership.
  - ii. Chairman Gordon Conn thanks all who have joined the trail as members and supporters.
  - iii. Gordon also suggested the WHT host Membership Days at several trail locations featuring food, beverages and WHT trail novelties, timing Late Summer.
- f. Trail Ambassadors (Monitors) – Stan Rudge - No Report
- g. Trail Maintenance – Tom Dittman
  - i. Work Party Series
    - 1. Tom Dittman is initiating a Work Party Program, Thursdays and Saturdays of each week beginning at specific locations where work is needed.
    - 2. The work parties will meet at 9:00 a.m. weather permitting.
    - 3. Tom will email interested volunteers a day in advance of the event.
    - 4. Tom reported that work parties have cleared all the drainage ditches of winter debris from Saltsburg to the Rangos Access.
  - ii. Turtle Creek Flood Damage Remediation
    - 1. **A WHT Thank You!** To Trafford trail supporters Michael Bertonaschi, Doug Webster and John Ruccio who surveyed the flood damage, partially cleared the tree and arranged for The Urban Brothers to remove even larger portions of the tree damming Turtle Creek causing it to wash out the trail.
    - 2. Full removal of the tree will be done when the water level falls low enough to allow for chain saw volunteers wearing chest waders.

## 11. Old Business

- a. An Insurance payment of approximately \$2,000 has been received to cover damages to the Sarah Steele Access Kiosk damaged by an errant motorist.

- b. The Slickville Maintenance shed was debated as to location and size. The discussion was tabled without resolution until the April meeting pending cost information, size and choice of construction materials.

## 12. New Business

- a. Rubber Duck Race April 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. until Noon
  - i. The Turtle Creek Watershed Association and the WHT are sponsoring the event.
  - ii. The event location will be at Bear Hollow Park, 4100 Bear Hollow Park Court, Murrysville, PA 15668.
  - iii. There will be Refreshments, Face Painting, Chinese Auction, Baskets and Lawn Games.
  - iv. Tom Dittman and John Sopko will man a booth to promote the WHT.
  - v. Participants will “rent” a rubber duck and win prizes based on their feathered friends finish position.
  - vi. Please plan to attend, have fun and support the Trail.
- b. Opening Day of Trout Season, April 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - i. Saunders Station Access has been a favorite arrival location for area fisherpersons and fills up quickly.
  - ii. Trail Users will be alerted by email, there may not be parking available at Saunders Station for the first week of the season.
  - iii. The Municipality of Monroeville is considering opening an “overflow” lot at the Municipal Pool with possibly a walking path to the WHT.

On a motion by Sopko, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nelson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

The next meeting will be Thursday April 12th beginning at 7:00 p.m.  
Location to be announced.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Sopko, 2018 Secretary