



The mission of the Westmoreland Heritage Trail is to manage and maintain the trail from Saltsburg to Trafford, in partnership with like-minded groups, Westmoreland County Parks, and the associated municipalities the trail passes through. The trail will be promoted for walking and biking activities and to provide for recreation, education, volunteerism, tourism, and historic and environmental conservation. (www.westmorelandheritagetrail.com)

WHT October Board Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2024

Lamplighter Restaurant, Delmont PA

Meeting Attendees:

- Board (16): Mike Banda, Michael Bertonaschi, Karen Rose Cercone, Wendy Davis, Jerry Detar, Chad Emahizer, Liz Ferri, Rick Fisher, Geri Lombardo, Tom Marcin, Pat Norton, Stan Rudge, Vicki Rudge, Malcolm Sias, Annamarie Stackiewicz, Ann Wade
- Absent Board (5): Rob Cronauer, Kerry Jobe, Monica Meehan, Darrin Miller, Chris Panichella
- Guests and Members (13): Jerry Babcock, Linda Colangelo, Titus Colangelo, Sarah Colligan, Barbara Coulter, Jim Coulter, Tim Dunn, Mike Grimaldi, Christopher Guy, Tim Leriotes, Hal Lester, Jeff Richards, Mike Urban

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.

- President's Comments – the president thanked the volunteers for all their work and pointed out the samples of possible signage for the Gateway Arch that were on display at the front.
- Public Input/Introductions – Titus Colangelo, an Eagle Scout prospect from Boy Scout Troup 205, introduced himself to the board.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. The minutes from the September 12, 2024 meeting were approved on a motion by Jerry Detar seconded by Ann Wade.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT – no report

- a. A financial summary will be sent to board members in the next few days.

4. ITEMS FOR ACTION AND/OR INFORMATION

- a. Official Correspondence – an email was received from Tom Petrus about an accident that occurred on our trail back in June. The gentleman in question requested that trail policy be amended to recommend walking on the left rather than on the right, but after discussion at the RTC, the current policy of recommending that walkers stay on the right will stay the same.
- b. Upcoming Events – the president reminded the meeting of several events coming up, including the very popular Murrysville Trick or Treat on the Trail.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Commissioning brickwork for Gateway Arch in Saltsburg – Stan Rudge
 - A quote is expected for the brickwork, with the final time frame for completion of the entire arch probably happening in the spring.
- b. Change to year-round PortaJohn availability – Chris Panichella & Mike Banda
 - A motion was made by Mike Banda and seconded by Jerry Detar to keep two Porta-Johns open year-round, one on each section of the trail. The motion was approved.

- c. WHT Volunteer Appreciation Night – Ann Wade & Monica Meehan
 - The event committee has reserved the Westmoreland Conservation District for the holiday event. Rather than give out shirts or jackets, the committee plans to contact several caterers and have a nicer spread of hors 'd'oeuvres and refreshments for our volunteers.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Update on trail brochure reprinting – Stan Rudge
 - 1500 copies of the brochure have been ordered and should be arriving soon.
- b. Export borough proposal for parking lot signage – Liz Ferri
 - Export would like to one sign placed near the entrance to the big parking lot to inform trail users that Trail Parking is located 700 feet ahead. The cost would be \$102.00. A motion for the trail to cover the cost of the sign if necessary was made by Ann Wade, seconded by Karen Rose Cercone. The motion was approved.
 - Liz also reported that the Export Historical Society has set their bathroom hours: 7 AM to 7 PM daily from April 1 to Oct 1 and 7 AM to 7 PM on weekends from Oct 1 to April 1.
- c. Eagle Scout Project by Titus Colangelo – Stan Rudge
 - Titus Colangelo presented his plans for his Eagle Scout project which include building two bike racks, a charging station, and adding an American flag to the Old William Penn trailhead. The estimated cost for the project is \$910. A motion was made by Malcolm Sias, seconded by Geri Lombardo, to approve the Eagle Scout project. The motion carried. A motion was made by Ann Wade, seconded by Annemarie Stackiewicz, to donate \$250 toward the project. The motion also carried. Remaining funds needed for the project will be requested from the Trail Volunteer Fund.
- d. Board Meetings for Winter
 - A motion was made by Annemarie Stackiewicz, seconded by Chad Emahizer, to hold board meetings via Zoom in January, February, and March. The motion was approved.

7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. **Real Estate, Planning, Engineering and Construction** – Jeff Richards
 - The White Valley Athletic Club easement will be surveyed for the club members to view.
 - The County is working with PennDOT District 12 on the Route 66 crossing and adjacent trail segments. Statements of interest from engineering firms are expected in December.
- b. **Public Relations** – Vicki Rudge
 - Facebook followers stand at 3750, Instagram at 116 and X (formerly Twitter) at 174.
 - Website views for the month were 1434.
 - It was suggested that corporate sponsorship information be placed on the website. Karen Rose Cercone will send the sponsor information to Chad Emahizer.
- c. **Membership** – Wendy Davis
 - Membership increased to 494 active members.
- d. **Maintenance** – Rick Fisher and Chad Emahizer
 - Grass cutting is pretty much done, but leaf blowing has started.
 - Winter log clean-ups are planned for the trail.
 - Zone leader reports
 - Zone 1-2 – several trees came down and were cleaned up
 - Zone 5 – the last organized work party of the year just wrapped up

- e. **Fundraising** – Rob Cronauer (report by Stan Rudge)
 - Comedy Night next year will be at the LIVE Casino.
 - f. **Trail Ambassadors** – Stan Rudge
 - Stan thanked all of his ambassadors for their dedicated work this summer.
 - g. **Regional Trail Corporation / Trans-Allegheny Trails** – Stan Rudge
 - No report
 - h. **Municipal Representatives**
 - Trafford – Michael Bertonaschi reported that Friends of the Riverfront have finished their appraisal of the Westinghouse corridor and will be submitting it to Norfolk Southern sometime this week or next.
 - Trafford – Stan Rudge reported that Lisa’s Bike Shop is currently negotiating with another buyer, but the real estate agent will contact us if that offer falls through.
 - Murrysville – Michael Bertonaschi reported that ATV’s and motorcycles from Bentley’s have been seen on the trail doing test drives. The Murrysville police have been alerted.
 - Delmont – Annamarie Stackiewicz reported that trail brochures were handed out to promote the trail and cash donations were collected at the Apple and Arts Festival.
8. Next month’s WHT Meeting will be held in person on November 14, 2024 at The Lamplighter.
9. On a motion by Chad Emahizer, seconded by Jerry Detar, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Rose Cercone, Secretary

Upcoming WHT Board Meeting Dates and Locations

November 14 (Lamplighter Restaurant, Delmont)

December 12 (Westmoreland Conservation District, 218 Donohoe Road, Greensburg PA)

Westmoreland Heritage Trail 2024 Event Calendar

FEBRUARY

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
Sat, Feb 10	6 PM	10 th Annual WHT Comedy Night	Colton Hall, Claridge

APRIL

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
Mon, Apr 22	Noon to 2 PM	MSA Earth Day Trail Clean-up	Zone 4, near MSA plant
Sat Apr 27	8AM-2:45PM	Norwin AFJROTC Bataan March	Zone 5

MAY

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
-------------	-------------	--------------	-----------------

JUNE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
Sat June 1	9 AM – 2 PM	WHT Festival and Poker Run	Murrysville Community Ctr

JULY

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
Sat July 14	7 AM – Noon	GCXC Murrysville Monster Race	Zone 4

AUGUST

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
Aug 7	6 PM – 8 PM	Friends of Norwin Trails Bike Ride	Zones 1 and 2
Aug 8 and 9	All day	Slickville Community Festival	Zone 2 / Slickville
Sat Aug 17	All day	4 th Annual Ted Hayes Memorial	Zone 2 / Slickville VFD

SEPTEMBER

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
Sat Sept 14	9 AM - 2 PM	Wealth Management Trail Walk	Export to Carson Braun

OCTOBER

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
Sun Oct 13	1 PM - 5 PM	Export Witch's Ride	Zone 4
Sat Oct 26	8 AM – 11 AM	GCXC Trick or Treat 5 K Race	Zone 4
Sat Oct 26	11 AM – 4 PM	Murrysville Trick or Treat	Zone 4

NOVEMBER

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
Sat Nov 2	7 AM – 1 PM	Young Life 5K Fundraiser	Zone 4
Sat Nov 9	TBA	FRHS Lacrosse 5K Run / 1m Walk	Zone 5

DECEMBER

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
Thur Dec 12	6 - 8 PM	Volunteer Appreciation Meeting	WCD Barn