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Meeting Minutes November 10, 2022
Lamplighter Restaurant, Delmont

Meeting Attendees:

- a. Board: (14) Alyssa Davis, Wendy Davis, Chad Emahizer, Rick Fisher, Kerry Jobe, Brandon Lacina, Geri Lombardo, Jack Maher, Monica Meehan, Pat Norton, Bill O'Hara, Stan Rudge, Vicki Rudge, and Malcolm Sias
 - b. Absent Board: (6) Rob Cronauer, Paul Estok, Elizabeth Ferri, Chris Panichella, AnnaMarie Stackiewicz, and Ann Wade
 - c. Guests: Karen Rose Cercone, Tim Dunn, Cody McBride, John Ruccio, Michael Bertonaschi, David Nigro, Dee O'Hara, Tim Lerotis, Chris Leo, Gerald Detar
1. President Stan Rudge led the recitation of "The Pledge of Allegiance" and then called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
 2. Presidents' Comment – Last month the WHT mission statement was voted on and approved, *"The mission of the Westmoreland Heritage Trail is to manage and maintain the trail from Saltsburg to Trafford, in partnership with like-minded groups and the associated municipalities the trail traverses. The trail will be promoted for walking and biking activities to advocate for recreation, education, volunteerism, tourism, historic, and environmental conservation."*
 3. Public Input/Introductions – Kody McBride introduced themselves as a trail user and needs to complete some community service, which they would like to carry out on the trail.
 4. Approval of Minutes –
 - a. A motion was made to approve the October minutes by Norton, 2nd by Sias, motion carried, minutes approved.
 5. Treasurer's Report –Jack Maher
 - a. To date, we have \$53,764.70 in the Money Market account, \$43,280.87 in the checking account, and \$60,000.00 invested for a total of \$157,045.57 in current assets. We have \$16,392.49 in fixed assets making our total assets \$173,438.06.
 - b. Our total revenue for 2022 is \$61,196.21. Total expenses were \$42,604.41 for a net operating revenue of \$18,591.80.
 - c. A motion was made to approve the October treasurer's report by O'Hara, 2nd by Sias, motion carried, report approved.
 - i. The maintenance trailer cost will be moved to the correct area in the budget by Panichella and Maher.
 6. Items for Action and/or Information
 - a. Export VFD request as presented at the Sept. meeting.
 - i. The committee reached out to Export, and it was decided that until Export searches out some grants/fundraising/other opportunities themselves, it was not recommended to provide assistance/funds from the WHT at this time.
 - b. Nomination and Vote for Open Board member
 - i. Karen Cercone was nominated for the open position at the October meeting. No other nominations were made, and nominations were closed.
 - ii. Sias nominated that Cercone be approved by a unanimous vote, which passed.
 - c. Trail Events
 - i. No events for November or December at this time.
 7. Old Business
 8. New Business
 - a. Christmas Gathering

- i. Meehan and Wade plan to have the Christmas party at the Lamplighter On December 8 at 7 pm. Anyone who would like to bring cookies is welcome!
 - 1. A motion was made by Norton, 2nd by Cercone to approve up to \$500 budget for the Christmas party. Motion carried, budget approved.
 - b. Review List for 2023 Board Members and Community Representatives up for re-election
 - i. Open positions were reviewed, and nominations will be open at the December meeting.
 - c. Updated/revised bench application
 - i. A revised bench application and verbiage has been drafted. Once finalized, it will be approved and distributed.
 - d. Eagle Scout Projects
 - i. President Rudge is looking for support from a board member to guide the two Eagle Scouts who have requested to complete their projects along the trail.
 - e. Laurel Highlands Conservation Landscape Minigrant
 - i. If anyone has a grant idea they would like to pursue, this would be a great opportunity.
- 9. Standing Committee Reports –
 - a. Real Estate/Acquisitions & Engineering and Construction – Jeff Richards
 - i. No report.
 - b. Public Relations – Vicki Rudge
 - i. FB followers at 3,222, Twitter at 162.
 - ii. Discounted merch is still available for those looking for Christmas gifts! Vicki has found a company that can take over our merch, where everything is online and the merch options are a lot broader. She will be scheduling a call with them to discuss soon.
 - c. Membership – Wendy Davis
 - i. Everything is pretty much up to date.
 - ii. The WHT is currently at 452 current members!
 - d. Maintenance – Rick Fisher and Chad Emahizer
 - i. Leaf blowing has been ongoing.
 - ii. A few new kiosks have been constructed, and a HUGE WHT thank you goes out to Stan Rudge for his hard work on construction of those kiosks!
 - iii. Fisher talked to Cronauer to plan on getting a backhoe out on the trail to clear out some ditches that need cleaning.
 - iv. A need for a more organized approach to tracking in-kind hours was suggested and will be discussed further.
 - v. Two new Little Libraries have been installed along the trail at Roberts Parcel Trail Access in Murrysville and the Parkside Creamery parking area in Trafford.
 - vi. A few new benches have been installed within the last month or two.
 - e. Municipal Representatives- various
 - i. Rick Fisher (Murrysville): He would like to provide each municipality a list of WHT information (fundraising, funds in/out, accomplishments, etc) when requesting help from a municipality.
 - ii. Kerry Jobe (Salem): Stackiewicz scheduled a meeting with PennDOT earlier this week to discuss the Delmont trail spur and the grant funds received to move the project forward.
 - iii. Lacina (Trafford): Twinkle Tour is scheduled for Dec. 3 from 5p-7p in Trafford. The WHT is welcome to attend and pass out information on the WHT to attendees.
- 10. Next month’s meeting will take place on December 8 at the Lamplighter Restaurant for the WHT Annual Christmas Gathering and December board meeting.

On a motion by Norton, 2nd by O’Hara, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Davis, Secretary