



www.westmorelandheritage.com

Meeting Minutes April 14, 2022
Lamplighter Restaurant, Delmont

Meeting Attendees:

- a. Board: (14) Robert Cronauer, Alyssa Davis, Wendy Davis, Tom Dittman, Chad Emahizer, Elizabeth Ferri, Rick Fisher, Pat Norton, Bill O'Hara, Chris Panichella, Stan Rudge, Vicki Rudge, Malcolm Sias, and Ann Wade
 - b. Absent Board: (7) Gordon Conn, Kerry Jobe, Brandon Lacina, Jack Maher, Monica Meehan, Mary Grace Muster, and AnnaMarie Stackiewicz
 - c. Guests: Jeff Richards, Mike Grimaldi, Jerry Detar, Tom Thomas, John Beale, Megan Pilkington, Jeff Pilkington, Matt & Tom K., Tim Dunn, Louise Fisher, Dan Scheuermann, Ren Hoffman, Dale Hollabauch
1. President Stan Rudge led the recitation of "The Pledge of Allegiance" and then called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.
 2. Presidents' Comment – A big WHT thank you to all of the volunteers and leader, Malcolm Sias, who assisted with the Trafford Road bridge decking project!!
 3. Public Input/Introductions – Dan Scheuermann introduced himself as a trail user and inquired about having the section of trail across from the Alpine Village re-crowned. Discussion followed, and it was decided that President Rudge or another maintenance crew member would go view the trail section to assess the condition. If it was in need of re-surfacing/re-crowning, then this could possibly be done when prepping the new storage container site near FTMSA.
 4. Approval of Minutes –
 - a. A motion was made to approve the March minutes by Cronauer, 2nd by Norton, motion carried, minutes approved.
 5. Treasurer's Report –Chris Panichella
 - a. To date, we have \$53,733.06 in the Money Market account, \$50,416.28 in the checking account, and \$60,000.00 invested for a total of \$164,149.34 in current assets. We have \$16,392.49 in fixed assets making our total assets \$180,541.83.
 - b. Our total revenue for 2022 is \$28,314.50. Total expenses were \$2,582.29 for a net revenue of \$25,762.67.
 - c. Panichella will report on how the investment money is doing at May's meeting.
 - d. A motion was made to approve the March treasurer's report by O'Hara, 2nd by Wade, motion carried, report approved.
 6. Committee Reports –
 - a. TAT – Stan Rudge
 - i. The new brochures have been printed, and copies were available at meeting for attendees to view/take. These were paid for by the Laurel Highlands Conservation Landscape Minigrant.
 - b. Fundraising –Rob Cronauer
 - i. The Westmoreland Arts and Heritage Festival will be taking place on June 30-July 3, 2022, and once again, WHT needs volunteers to help out with parking. Approx. 10 volunteers are needed for 3 hr shifts from 10AM to 7 PM. The RTC gets ½ of the money made from parking and splits that between the trail groups by the amount of donated parking hours. Last time the WHT made \$5,500, and we were the trail group with the highest donated hours. Please reach out to Malcolm Sias if you are interested in volunteering!! The most openings left are on Saturday and Sunday.
 - c. Engineering and Construction – Jeff Richards
 - i. Volunteers were encouraged to sign up as trail ambassadors if they are interested!

- ii. A section along the Middle Gap near Springview was walked with Rob C. and Jim P. of the West. Conservation District.
 - iii. The Southwest PA Commission put out an invitation to submit proposals to the Smart Transportation Funding Program. A \$140,000 proposal for the Wilson Run to Rte 66 future trail segment (approx. 1.4 miles) was submitted. News of chosen projects should hopefully be available for the May meeting.
 - iv. An agreement with the landowner near Route 66 was signed and approved for the previously discussed parcels.
 - v. The stream crossing pipe on Lauffer Mine Road should be installed by June 30.
 - vi. The low bid of \$115,000 for the Export trail extension project was approved on March 17. The project was awarded to Construction Group Inc.
 - d. Trail Ambassadors – Stan Rudge
 - i. A new training will take place on Tuesday, April 26 at 6:30 pm at the Westmoreland Conservation District. To sign up, please contact either Stan or Vicki Rudge. This training has attendees from Five Star Trail, Coal and Coke Trail, WHT, and Little Crabtree Trail participating!
 - e. Maintenance
 - i. Some trees were down with the soft ground, but other than that, all has been normal.
 - ii. There have been a number of vandalism issues at Saunders Station trailhead (stop signs stolen, a Jeep stuck on the side of the trail, bike display stolen, graffiti, and tipping of the outhouse). President Rudge has put together a summary of these events for Paul Estok to bring to the attention of the local Chief of Police.
 - f. Public Relations – Vicki Rudge
 - i. Facebook followers are at 2,992 and Twitter is at 147.
 - ii. Trail Town Festival planning is in full swing. Committees have been formed for Export, Trafford, and Slickville. The music and food are booked and registration is open! Please sign up to volunteer and help advertise if you can't attend!
 - a. A motion to approve \$800 to be used for Trail Towns Festival planning was made by Fisher, 2nd by Norton, motion carried, spending amount of \$800 approved.
 - g. Municipal Representatives
 - i. West. Co. Parks – Chris P.: The West. Co. Senior Games are coming up. Parks is also now hiring summer help. If anyone knows anyone interested, reach out to Chris Panichella or Co. Parks.
- 7. Old Business
 - a. PA Master Naturalist Volunteer Project – Educational Posts on Social Media
 - i. Carol Byers and Alyssa Davis thanked the members of the board who have assisted in getting this project up and running! Posts were started approximately two weeks ago, and there has been some good, positive engagement so far!
 - b. Pittsburgh Foundation grant application for new storage container and outfittings
 - i. The grant was awarded, and Adam Eidemiller Inc will be leveling and prepping the site on April 27 for the container delivery on April 28.
 - c. Trafford Bridge decking replacement
 - i. Work is complete thanks to the 20+ volunteers that came out to help along with the County Parks crew! It took four days to complete construction. Anyone who didn't get a volunteer t-shirt that helped out, reach out to Malcolm Sias!
 - d. Monroeville Core Drilling
 - i. This was completed for permitting purposes.
 - e. Safety Initiative Signs
 - i. The A-frames and signage will be put back out the first week of May.
- 8. New Business
 - a. Keep PA Beautiful trail section adoption
 - i. Pros and cons to this were discussed, but ultimately everyone came to an agreement. Malcolm Sias explained that other trails have done this along sections as well. The individuals in question want to "adopt" from School Road to Trafford Road. Pickups are required with the program 2x/year, and a small sign would be installed somewhere along this section.
 - 1. A motion to approve the adoption was made by Alyssa Davis, 2nd by Sias, motion carried, trail adoption approved.

- b. JoyRiders event – June 7, 2022
 - i. Three bikes would be on the trail with a few individuals from Redstone Highlands like the previous event.
 - 1. A motion to approve the event was made by V. Rudge, 2nd by Cronauer, motion carried, event approved.
 - ii. President Rudge also mentioned that he submitted a grant to AARP for the full amount of \$14,000 for a JoyRider bike that would be owned by the WHT.
- c. Appreciation Dinner Committee
 - i. President Rudge called for volunteers to organize this year’s appreciation dinner.
 - ii. Pat Norton volunteered, and additional volunteers will be asked for at next month’s meeting.
- d. RTC Liaison
 - i. Vice President Rob Cronauer is the current WHT liaison for the RTC, however President Rudge and Malcolm Sias are both now board members of the RTC. To make the liaison more efficient, Cronauer stepped down, and President Rudge/Malcolm Sias will now share the duty.
- e. Gravel at Meiers Hardware Trailhead
 - i. A new pile of gravel is at the trailhead and should be spread soon. Chris Panichella said he would look into the Athena Drive parking area as well.

On a motion by Wade, 2nd by Norton, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Davis, Secretary