



*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](http://www.westmorelandheritagetrail.com))*

## **WHT May Board Meeting Minutes**

May 8, 2025

Lamplighter Restaurant, Delmont PA

### **Meeting Attendees:**

- Board (14): Mike Banda, Michael Bertonaschi, Karen Rose Cercone, Rob Cronauer, Wendy Davis, Jerry Detar, Chad Emahizer, Rick Fisher, Tom Marcin, Monica Meehan, Darrin Miller, Pat Norton, Malcolm Sias, Ann Wade
- Absent Board (7): Liz Ferri, Kerry Jobe, Geri Lombardo, Chris Panichella, Stan Rudge, Vicki Rudge, AnnaMarie Stackiewicz
- Guests and Members (8): Barb Coulter, Jim Coulter, Sarah Colligan, Tim Dunn, Tim Leriottis, Ron Markos, Jeff Richards, Mike Urban

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

- 1. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS** – Rob Cronauer relayed Stan Rudge's thanks and kudos to our maintenance crews for the work they did to keep the trail open after the recent windstorm.
- 2. PUBLIC INPUT/INTRODUCTIONS** – none
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - a. The minutes from the April 10, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved with one correction on a motion by Jerry Detar, seconded by Michael Bertonaschi.
- 4. TREASURER'S REPORT** – no report
- 5. ITEMS FOR ACTION AND/OR INFORMATION**
  - a. Official Correspondence – seven additional thank you letters were sent in April, including one thanking the donors of our recent Pittsburgh Foundation maintenance equipment grant.
  - b. Twelve donations have been received so far in memory of Don Slusser. A thank you letter will be sent to the family after all donations come in.
- 6. OLD BUSINESS**
  - Bench maintenance – a bench near Delmont has a broken slat, and the bench in B-Y park also could use some maintenance.
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
  - RTC Parking Fundraiser – Rob Cronauer / Malcolm Sias  
Additional parking volunteers can sign up to help raise funds for the trail.
  - Bike raffle – Malcolm Sias  
Packs of 10 raffle tickets were made available for people to take and sell by July 4.
  - The gentleman who walks on the wrong side of the trail and sent us a letter about it has recently been involved in arguments with other trail users.

## 8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

### a. **Real Estate, Planning, Engineering and Construction** – Jeff Richards

- A clean-up of Zone 3 is planned for Sunday May 18, to help clear brush and debris for the upcoming 100-mile race on Saturday, October 4, 2025. A few volunteers would be helpful. Please come at 9 AM, meeting at the end of Industrial Drive (parking along Industrial).
- Funding acknowledgement signs have been installed at White Valley, Great Oak Energy and at Industrial Drive. The folks at DCNR were pleased.

### b. **Public Relations** – Vicki Rudge (report by Wendy Davis)

- Facebook followers stand at 3806, Instagram at 145 and X /Twitter at 162.
- The Poker Run and Trail Town Festival (Ann Wade) - forms are now available for people to solicit sponsors for the event. Volunteers have been secured for road crossings that morning. Additional donations of raffle baskets or gift certificates are welcome.
- Upcoming trail events include the Poker Run on June 7 in Export. We will also have a table at the Trafford B-Y Park FlavorFest on June 22 from noon to 5 and at the CarnivAlz Fundraiser for Alzheimers Research at Ginny's on June 29 from noon to 4 PM.

### c. **Membership** – Wendy Davis

- Membership at the end of April stood at 518 active members.

### d. **Website** - Chad Emahizer

- The WHT website has been updated for spring. The website had 1850 views in April, up 20% from march from March.
- The merchandise link has gone live and several sales have been made so far. We have also gotten six Poker Run registrations and 18 memberships (new and renewed).

### e. **Maintenance** – Rick Fisher and Chad Emahizer

- The trail is in good shape, with some trees still on the sides that need to be cleared up.

### e. **Fundraising** – Rob Cronauer & Malcolm Sias

- Parking and bike raffle were discussed above.

### f. **Trail Ambassadors** – no report

### g. **Regional Trail Corporation / Trans-Allegheny Trails** – no report

### h. **Municipal Representatives**

- Murrys ville – Rick Fisher noted that WHT board member Darrin Miller is running for council.
- Export – specific hours have been posted for the train station: daily from April 1-October 30 9 AM to 7 PM. It will then be open on weekends for the remainder of the year.
- Trafford – Michael Bertonaschi reported increasing instances of electronic dirt bikes being ridden on the trail. He has heard from some of the riders that the police and local bike shops have advised them to ride on the trail rather than on the road.

9. Next month's WHT Meeting will be held on June 12, 2025 from 7:00 to 8:00 PM at Pedora Park.

10. On a motion by Pat Norton, seconded by Chad Emahizer, the meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Rose Cercone, Secretary

## Westmoreland Heritage Trail 2025 Event Calendar

Month	Date	Time	Event	Location
JAN	9	7 PM	WHT Board Meeting	Zoom
FEB	13	7 PM	WHT Board Meeting	Zoom
MAR	7 & 8	6 PM	Comedy Night at LIVE Casino	Greensburg
	11	6:30 PM	Trail Ambassador New / Recertifying Training	WCD Barn
	13	7 PM	WHT Board Meeting	Zoom
APR				
	10	7 PM	WHT Board Meeting (with FOTR/PEC reps)	Lamplighter
	22	5 PM – 7 PM	TCWA & WBNC Earth Day Watershed Walk	Zone 5
	26	8 AM - 2PM	Norwin AF-JR-ROTC Bataan March	Zones 4 & 5
MAY	8	7 PM	WHT Board Meeting	Lamplighter
JUN	7	9 AM – 2 PM	Community Festival / Poker Run	Export
	12	7 PM	WHT Board Meeting	Pedora Park
	22	12 PM–5 PM	Trafford FlavorFest (WHT Table)	B-Y Park
	29	12 PM-4 PM	Ginni’s CarnivAlz Fundraiser for Alzheimers	Ginni’s, Export
JUL				
	10	7 PM	WHT Board Meeting	Pedora Park
AUG				
	14	7 PM	WHT Board Meeting	Pedora Park
SEP				
	11	7 PM	WHT Board Meeting	Pedora Park
OCT				
	9	7 PM	WHT Board Meeting	Lamplighter
NOV				
	13	7 PM	WHT Board Meeting	Lamplighter
DEC				
	11	6 PM	WHT Volunteer Appreciation Night	TBA