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Meeting Minutes June 9, 2022
Pedora Park, Export

Meeting Attendees:

- a. Board: (17) Robert Cronauer, Alyssa Davis, Wendy Davis, Tom Dittman, Chad Emahizer, Elizabeth Ferri, Rick Fisher, Brandon Lacina, Jack Maher, Monica Meehan, Pat Norton, Bill O'Hara, Chris Panichella, Stan Rudge, Malcolm Sias, AnnaMarie Stackiewicz, and Ann Wade
 - b. Absent Board: (4) Gordon Conn, Kerry Jobe, Geri Lombardo, Vicki Rudge
 - c. Guests: Megan Pilkington, Bill Breegar, Tim Leriotis, Bob Stackiewicz, Mike Grimaldi, Michael Bertonaschi, John Ruccio, Dave Nigro, Tom Thomas, Tom Marcin, Jeff Richards, Jerry Detar, Barbara Coulter, Jim Coulter
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 – Drawings for the grand prizes from the Trail Towns Festival occurred. Jose Valesquez won the dog trailer grand prize. Kayt Skowvonek won the Fat Tire grand prize. Bob Molnar won the WHT Lifetime Membership grand prize. Kevin Weigold won the Pro Bike Tune ups grand prize.
 3. Public Input/Introductions – Maria D. and her husband Craig introduced themselves.
 4. Approval of Minutes –
 - a. A motion was made to approve the May minutes by Cronauer, 2nd by Wade, motion carried, minutes approved.
 5. Treasurer's Report –Chris Panichella
 - a. To date, we have \$53,733.93 in the Money Market account, \$31,613.56 in the checking account, and \$60,000.00 invested for a total of \$145,347.49 in current assets. We have \$16,392.49 in fixed assets making our total assets \$161,739.98.
 - b. Our total revenue for 2022 is \$29,969.50. Total expenses were \$23,045.01 for a net revenue of \$6,960.82.
 - c. A motion was made to approve the May treasurer's report by O'Hara, 2nd by Norton, motion carried, report approved.
 6. Committee Reports –
 - a. Engineering and Construction – Jeff Richards
 - i. The Murrysville Planning Commission accepted a plan for a new Dollar General near Rte 66. Coordination will be needed between all parties involved as this will determine future tunnel decisions for the WHT Middle Gap connection. The next Murrysville public hearing is on June 14th at 7 pm, and board members are encouraged to attend.
 - ii. The \$140,000 proposal for the Wilson Run to Rte 66 future trail segment (approx. 1.4 miles) submitted to the Southwest PA Commission Smart Transportation Funding should be announced by June 16. This proposal is to complete designs that would bring the project to a detail that it could then be bid out.
 - iii. The acquisition agreement with the landowner east of Route 66 is complete!
 - iv. The Export extension is still working through some growing pains before construction can move forward. Work continues to move things forward.
 - b. Trail Ambassadors – Stan Rudge
 - i. Trail ambassadors were well represented at the Trail Towns Festival, and hours keep coming in!
 - c. Maintenance – Tom Dittman
 - i. Everything has been going smooth so far.
 - ii. Fisher reported that research is being done to possibly replace the Kubota tractor in the future.

- iii. Sias reported that on Monday, 6/13, some trail maintenance volunteers are going to view the trail groomer and other maintenance facilities started at West Newton at 9 am. If anyone is interested in attending, please reach out to Sias.
 - d. Fundraising – Rob Cronauer
 - i. Sias encouraged everyone once again to sign up and volunteer to park cars at the Arts & Heritage Festival at Twin Lakes Park!!! Reach out to Sias or Leslie Pierce at Regional Trail Corp. if you are interested!
 - ii. A meeting will be planned soon to discuss successes and improvements for next year’s Trail Town Festival.
- 7. Old Business
 - a. Trail Towns Festival
 - i. Trail Towns results: Total gross \$2,258. Additional \$300 from table sponsors. Business sponsors \$2,000. Online registrations \$350. Online donation of \$1,000. Gross \$5,908. Expenses \$1,352. Net profit \$4,555.93. Volunteer hours- 258.
 - ii. A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered, organized, donated, spread the word and attended!
- 8. New Business
 - a. Painting murals on Memorial Benches/Plaques on memorial benches
 - i. Maria DePasquale presented on the idea of bench murals. She apologized for painting the initial bench without asking for permission first. She then explained how much the trail has helped her during difficult times in the past few years, and how honored she was that her friends and family purchased a memorial bench for her. Recently she decided to paint a mural on her bench but didn’t realize the questions & concerns it would bring up.
 - ii. DePasquale volunteered to head up a committee to research the idea and possibly establish a policy and steps to take to move this idea to a fundraising opportunity. Fisher, Norton, Panichella, and President Rudge volunteered to join the committee as well.
 - b. Small 4x4 Memorial Kiosk for Robert Kish request
 - i. \$1,600 was previously donated in Robert Kish’s name. A family member would like to have a kiosk constructed at Slickville that would center on nature.
 - 1. A motion to construct a kiosk in honor of Robert Kish at Slickville was made by Norton, 2nd by Stackiewicz. Sias brought up that RTC has a strict policy on memorials along trails, and after some discussion, it was decided to table the motion.
 - 2. A motion to table the motion until July’s meeting to allow for further research into the existing policies was made by Sias, 2nd by Maher, motion carried, motion tabled.
 - c. Mural painting in the Turnpike tunnel
 - i. A Lady and the Tramp mural was approved by the Monroeville mayor to be done inside the turnpike tunnel without asking permission from the WHT.
 - ii. Discussion back and forth about .
 - d. Boy Scout project kiosk at Old Route 22 Trailhead
 - i. Roman, a member of Boy Scout Troop 205, has made his Eagle Scout Project to construct a trail informational kiosk at Meier’s Hardware Trailhead. Updated the board on the current progress, and he needs additional funding to complete project. Sias told him to contact him after the meeting to discuss funding sources.
 - e. Trail Events
 - i. No new requests.
 - f. Select WHT Mission & Vision Statements
 - i. The executive officers will hopefully have these ready for the July meeting.
- 9. Next month’s meeting will take place at Pedora Park in Export.

On a motion by Wade, 2nd by Norton, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Davis, Secretary