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Meeting Minutes August 11, 2022
Pedora Park, Export

Meeting Attendees:

- a. Board: (14) Robert Cronauer, Alyssa Davis, Wendy Davis, Chad Emahizer, Elizabeth Ferri, Rick Fisher, Jack Maher, Monica Meehan, Pat Norton, Bill O'Hara, Stan Rudge, Vicki Rudge, Malcolm Sias, and Ann Wade
 - b. Absent Board: (7) Gordon Conn, Tom Dittman, Kerry Jobe, Brandon Lacina, Geri Lombardo, Chris Panichella, AnnaMarie Stackiewicz
 - c. Guests: Karen Rose Cercone, Tim Dunn, Ron Markos, Steve Ising, Dale Hollabaugh, Eric Kana
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 – It's been a very busy month for all trail volunteers this month! Thanks to Chad Emahizer for library at SS, Rob and Bill cleaned up Griffs tree, Monroeville and Pat cleaned up tree and replaced gate, Ruccio and Zone 4 18.5 mp tree cleanup, Tim for brochures, Steve for chasing down the a-frame, Tim Dunn for warning on hornets and graffiti along trail. Couldn't do any of this without all of you!
 3. Public Input/Introductions – Bob Morgan introduced himself and is looking for information on starting a trail in his area.
 4. Approval of Minutes –
 - a. A motion was made to approve the June minutes by Cronauer, 2nd by Emahizer, motion carried, minutes approved.
 - i. Correction: mural painting on the turnpike approved by **Monroeville** mayor, not Murrysville mayor.
 5. Treasurer's Report –Jack Maher
 - a. To date, we have \$53,736.45 in the Money Market account, \$46,979.17 in the checking account, and \$60,000.00 invested for a total of \$160,715.62 in current assets. We have \$16,392.49 in fixed assets making our total assets \$177,108.11.
 - b. Our total revenue for 2022 is \$53,059.30. Total expenses were \$30,769.20 for a net revenue of \$22,328.95.
 - c. A motion was made to approve the July treasurer's report by Wade, 2nd by O'Hara, motion carried, report approved.
 6. Committee Reports –
 - a. Regional Trail Corporation – Stan Rudge
 - i. New maps have been printed thanks to Linda McKenna Box & Westmoreland County Parks and Recreation. The WHT is featured nicely on the backside of the brochure.
 - b. Engineering and Construction – Jeff Richards
 - i. The 750 ft extension in Export should be moving forward again starting Monday, August 22.
 - c. Public Relations – Vicki Rudge
 - i. FB followers at 3,123, Twitter at 159.
 - ii. Saturday, August 20 is the 2nd Annual Ted Hayes Memorial Bike Ride Fundraiser. Please attend/register/volunteer is you can to help support the trail and remember Ted!
 - iii. PR committee will be sold at upcoming events.
 - iv. Vicki is looking for someone to take charge of the WHT Newsletter. If interested, please reach out!
 - v. Jeff Richards shared a bike ride event at Helltown Brewery on 8/31/22.
 - d. Trail Ambassadors – Stan Rudge
 - i. 10-15 regular ambassadors have been out there on the trail logging hours! Thanks to all you do!

- e. Maintenance – Stan Rudge
 - i. Stan Rudge shared Tom Dittman’s resignation letter from the board, maintenance chairman, and Murrysville representative positions. We give a HUGE WHT thank you to Tom for the many years of his volunteer service to the trail, and he will be missed!
 - a. A new committee chairman will be needed to keep the zones organized and pass along maintenance notifications to the pertinent zone leads/volunteers.
 - ii. All of the zones are looking good! Some discussion occurred on trail maintenance equipment, but it was tabled until the future.
 - iii. President Rudge encouraged any trail maintenance volunteers to make sure **no one is ever working with any trees by themselves**. If enough volunteers are available when doing work, a designated flagger to direct/hold back trail traffic is also encouraged.
 - iv. Any zone leaders who haven’t submitted any 2023 Capital Expenditures needed for trail maintenance needs to submit them to President Rudge ASAP, or the needs won’t be included in next year’s budget.
 - f. Membership – Stan Rudge
 - i. 294 paid members as of today’s report.
 - g. Volunteer Recognition Night
 - i. The committee has confirmed that Penn Murry is available Sept. 8 at 6 pm for the WHT Volunteer Recognition Night. Cost would be \$15/person (not including alcohol). Karen Cercone will send out an attendance sheet for the event soon.
 - ii. A motion to approve the location of Penn Murry at a cost of \$15/person for this year’s WHT Volunteer Recognition Night was made by Sias, 2nd by Fisher, motion carried, event approved.
7. Old Business
- a. Painting murals on Memorial Benches/graffiti on trail property
 - i. This was presented to Regional Trail Corporation, and other trail groups have been dealing with similar experiences. Linda McKenna Box presented a definition of graffiti and how it should be dealt with to the RTC and was approved by RTC at their July meeting. This graffiti policy has now been passed down to the trail groups.
 - ii. President Rudge would like to include this policy in the next newsletter and move to enforce it going forward.
 - b. Small 4x4 Memorial kiosk for Robert Kish request
 - i. RTC was contacted for approval to move ahead with this kiosk, and it was confirmed that WHT can approve anything of this nature as long as it follows RTC guidelines. This would be located around mile 3 ½. Donations have been collected to fund the building of the kiosk - \$1,675.
 - 1. A motion to build and install the kiosk for Robert Kish was made by Malcolm, 2nd by Norton, motion carried, kiosk construction approved.
8. New Business
- a. Vandalism along Trafford to Saunders Station
 - i. WHT has had an increased occurrence of vandalism along the trail, but especially along the Trafford to Saunders Station section. Graffiti, signs stolen/damaged, gates destroyed, cars stuck along the trail, large dumps of trash, and more. Please report anything you see to the police. President Rudge is working to try and come up with solutions to this issue with the local police.
 - b. Trail Events
 - i. Walk/Run on August 13 for Slickville Days
 - 1. A motion to approve the trail event on August 13 was made by Wade, 2nd by Meehan, motion carried, event approved.
 - ii. Norwin AFJROTC would like to host another Charity Walk on April 23, 2023 along the trail. WHT will encourage them to make sure all event signage/trash is cleaned up afterwards.
 - 1. A motion to approve the event was made by Cronauer, 2nd by Maher, motion carried, event approved.
 - c. Boy Scout volunteering time- No report.
 - d. Maintenance Update-Proposed 2023 Capital Expenses – Discussed above.
 - e. APR Supply Co. Trail Volunteering

- i. The decks of the bridges need painted, and WHT is working with the group to try and organize them to help out with this. Date is TBD.
 - f. United Way for Week of Caring September 9-16
 - i. President Rudge submitted proposal for painting of kiosks in Zone 2 and some benches.
 - g. DCNR Proposed E-Bike Policy
 - i. Some board members responded to the draft policy with some concerns via email. President Rudge will pass those comments along to Brandon Simpson next week.
 - ii. WHT was also contacted with an inquiry about electric unicycle use on the trail. The RTC will be contacted for discussion.
 - h. Additional Signage for BY Park Trail Parking
 - i. Karen Cercone brought up request for signage to direct people to the trail parking at BY Park in Trafford. PennDOT will need to be contacted for any signage along the road. This will be looked into and discussed further next month.
 - i. Select WHT Mission & Vision Statements
 - i. President Rudge presented copies of the brainstormed mission statements by the executive committee to the board. He will send out an email to the board for anyone to send their thoughts/edits/comments, and a vote will be taken in the next few months on the new mission statement.
- 9. Next month's meeting will take place on September 8 at Penn Murray Bar & Kitchen for our annual Volunteer Recognition Night.

On a motion by Norton, 2nd by Sias, the meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Davis, Secretary