

**MON/YOUGH TRAIL COUNCIL**  
**P.O. BOX 14, MCKEESPORT, PA 15135**  
*thebostontrail.com*  
**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & BANQUET**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2018**

President, Mark Place, called the Annual Membership Meeting and Banquet of the Mon Yough Trail Council to order at 5:30 PM at Butler's Rock Run Inn followed by the invocation given by Reverend Roy Kelley.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mark Place	Belinda O'Keson	Eileen Lenart	Tim Banfield	Kathie Fawcett	Cathy Bartley
Mary Reid	Charlie Smith	Rich Kundman	John Eisenbarth	Marei Burnfield	Terry Vota

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

David Ringler      Bill Hall

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** – Secretary, Mary Reid confirmed that a quorum of twelve Board Members was present as noted above and made a motion to defer reading of the October Minutes until the next regular meeting in December which was seconded by Marei Burnfield, and the motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCE** – Tim Banfield made a motion to defer reading of the October Treasurers Report until regular meeting in December which was seconded by John Eisenbarth, and the motion carried.

**ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MAINTENANCE – TIM BANFIELD**

Maintenance Volunteers: 33 different volunteers logged 3050 hours so far in 2018. New Volunteers in 2018: Linda Grant, David Wiegel, James & Jake Ickes, Frank Lotito, Chuck Piontek. Volunteer Orientation Session: Held first training session for maintenance volunteers at shop in March, covered equipment available, vehicles, trail volunteering details, fire extinguishers. New Dump Truck: Committee secured major grant through Trail Volunteer Fund of Pittsburgh Foundation to cover purchase. Developed spec's and evaluated vendor proposals to make purchase early in 2018. Placed in service in June and serving trail council well since then. Boston Visitor Center/Trailhead: Installed security system in cooperative effort with Elizabeth Township. Upgraded HVAC system for visitor center and improved security. Mowing: Covered 12 miles along trail from Deadman's Hollow to Smithdale to keep trailheads at Boston, Buena Vista and Sutersville mowed and trimmed. Campground: Regular mowing of campground area weekly during spring/summer. Improved garbage receptacles to deter animals. Maintained supply of firewood for campers. SST Cleaning Service: Continued cooperative effort with Elizabeth Township to have cleaning company cover all Sweet Smelling Toilets along trail and at ballfields which was coordinated by Bill Hall. Regular Saturday Work Sessions/Weekday Work Sessions: Performed various maintenance duties including keeping trail clear of fallen trees. Installed new memorial benches for Don Coleman and Tim Minkus and painted all benches along trail. Maintenance Building: Purchased new fridge and finished Welcome sign. Equipment Status: Regular service performed on all vehicles and equipment; rebuilt engine for army truck, side arm tractor hauled to mechanic for steering problem; boomer tractor serviced for repairs on multiple occasions; backhoe serviced for cylinder repairs and new front tires; chipper serviced regularly and water pump replaced; mobile light tower returned to service for relay race; added tool cribs to crew cab truck and army truck; continuing to cycle chain saws through shop for tune-ups. Partnerships: Annual PA American Water September volunteer day to clean out ditch at Red Waterfall and clear fallen trees near Greenock. Challenges: February – flooding/heavy rains with high water event but no major trail damage. June – major slide closed trail near GAP123 with contractor assistance needed to clear; multiple trees down near Boston which volunteers cleared. July – heavy rain collapsed wall behind Visitor Center. September – mudslide near GAP124 due to plugged drain pipe required volunteer efforts to clear trail; Boston trailhead lot flooded; slip along 150 feet of paved trail near Deadman's Hollow.

**MEMBERSHIP – EILEEN LENART**

Total adjusted MYTC membership to date is 501. Each month dues deposited is reported with the year-to-date amount currently at \$3,410.00. Other statistics reported on a monthly basis are the number of new members each month; those expressing an interest in volunteering; number of thank-you letters sent and expenses associated with various membership mailings.

**VISITORS CENTER – MAREI BURNFIELD**

During the trail season from 3/31/2018 through 11/4/2018 the Visitors Staff consisted of eight activity volunteers – Marei Burnfield, Pam Magyar, Karen Hilliard, Jeff and Diane Pavetti, Bill Hall, and Terry and Linda Vota. Total volunteers during this period were 497 over 94 days staffed. Merchandise sales totaled \$6,718.0 and donations of \$453.00 were received. Expenses were \$3,206.32 with net proceeds at \$3,964.32.

### **NEWSLETTER – TERRY VOTA**

Two MYTC Newsletters were published in April and October thanks to input from many members. Unfortunately, some very fine articles had to be delayed until next year due to space limitations in the publication. Excellent input was received from Kathy Banfield, Tim Banfield, Marei Burnfield, Bob Cupp, Kathie Fawcett, Eileen Lenart, Dan Piesik, Mark Place, and Christine Zacharia as well as many photographs that other members send to Marei Burnfield for inclusion in the newsletter. A special thanks to Eileen Lenart for providing mailing labels in time to meet schedules and to Bill Hall for interfacing with UPS for printing. Going forward; members are encouraged to contribute articles and photos pertaining to our MYTC Section of the trail.

### **COMMUNICATIONS/WEBSITE – MARK PLACE/BILL HALL**

The Communications Committee was new in 2018 and was created to bring related topics together under one roof occasionally on related projects. These committees include Web Site, Newsletter, Visitor's Center, MYTCHelp and Membership. A major focus this year was to update the web site and to better connect it to membership, activities and the newsletter. The new web site is more contemporary, faster and portable device friendly. Work by the Visitors Center and Finance committees resulted in our ability to make sales and accept donations electronically. That was then rolled out on the new web site also as was the ability to join the organization or renew a membership making the membership chairs job a bit easier and faster. Work continues on new maps and trail documents that will be shared by the web site, Visitor's Center, and Membership. There is also a focus on refining our social media presence using Face Book, Snap Chat, Twitter etc. to better communicate with the various age groups that enjoy the trail. Development of a more defined emergency communication plan is in process with trail users, public safety and other trail groups based on our experience in 2018 dealing with multiple trail blockages from slips, slides and fallen trees.

### **VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT – RICH KUNDMAN**

There were eight new volunteers this year, four of which sustained bodily injuries that prevented them from returning; one incident was a fall while working on the trail and the other three occurred at home or somewhere other than the trail. The remaining four volunteered three to six times but have not come back to help due to work and/or family obligations at home.

### **ASSET MANAGEMENT – MARK PLACE**

The Asset Management Committee is working with the Maintenance Committee to document and assess all of the MYTC property and equipment and to develop a comprehensive master site plan for the Maintenance Center to properly house and better utilize our resources.

### **FUNDRAISERS**

A big thank you went out to Kathy Fawcett for chairing another very successful Half Marathon in April 2018 and to Kathy Banfield, chairperson for the combined Trail Appreciation Day/Yough & Roll event in June 2018.

### **VOLUNTEER AWARDS**

Special awards were presented to those members who volunteered an extremely high numbers of hours working in support of trail maintenance over the past season due to overwhelming storms which created excessive damage along the trail throughout the spring, summer and fall of this year.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION**

Secretary, Mary Reid, conducted the Board of Directors election from a slate of four candidates including Mark Place, Terry Vota, Sarah Helzlsour, and Linda Vota. There were no additional nominations from the floor and all four candidates were elected into office.

### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

A very interesting program was presented by long time trail advocates and generous donors for trail projects, Roy Weil and Mary Shaw of the Trail Volunteer Fund/Pittsburgh Foundation. Roy and Mary, authors of FREE WHEELING EASY, updated us on the new edition of their book which explores new trails in northwestern PA. Autographed copies of the book were available for sale at the conclusion of their presentation.

*Mary Reid*

Mary Reid, Secretary  
Mon/Yough Trail Council  
(mytc11102018minutes)