

MON/YOUGH TRAIL COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 14, MCKEESPORT, PA 15135
thebostontrail.com
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP & BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 09, 2018

President, Mark Place, called the monthly meeting of the Mon Yough Trail Council to order at 7:00 PM at the Greenock Fire Hall with 29 members in attendance. A quorum of 13 board members was confirmed as listed below. No non-Board items or concerns were presented for discussion.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Place	Belinda O'Keson	Bill Hall	RichKundman	Eileen Lenart	Kathie Fawcett
Mary Reid	Marei Burnfield	Charlie Smith	Terry Vota	David Ringler	Cathy Bartley
John Eisenbarth					

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Tim Banfield

CURRENT CALENDAR OF EVENTS – Upcoming Events: WYTC Labor Day Poker Run Monday, 9/3/2018. Terry Farrell Ride Saturday, 9/29/2018. ATA Relay Race Friday/Saturday, 10/12/2018-10/13/2018 with local area handoffs beginning at approximately 3:00 AM from West Newton to Buena Vista and Buena Vista to Boston. WYTC Beer Fest, Saturday, 10/20/2018. Annual MYTC banquet, Saturday, 11/10/2018. AED/CPR classes, last Thursday of each month.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – Minutes of the July 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved by the motion of Rich Kundman, seconded by John Eisenbarth, and the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCE – Due to the absence of Tim Banfield, the July Treasurer's Report will be presented along with the August report at the next meeting on 9/13/2018. In Tim's absence, Mary Reid summarized the bills to be paid which were approved as presented by the motion of David Ringler, seconded by Rich Kundman, and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP – Eileen Lenart presented statistics through July 2018 consisting of 426 current members; 10 renewals; 2 new members; 1 interested in volunteering; 1 member removed from active role due to return/address unknown; 4 updated addresses of members moving out of state; 40 thank-you letters printed; and \$15.60 in expenses.

FINANCE – Due to the absence of Tim Banfield, Mary Reid presented Tim's Finance report: \$371.54 in July Square transactions. \$304.66 in PayPal transactions transferred to PNC checking including \$250.00 in donations. Dump truck payoff. \$4,489.55 reimbursement from RTC for landslide cleanup. \$83.80 to MYTC as our share of Westmoreland Arts and Heritage Festival parking concession total receipts. Annual RTC dues of \$1,236.00 based on membership count.

VISITORS CENTER – Marei Burnfield summarized activity during July as follows: 102.5 hours, \$1,498.00 sales, \$176.00 donations, \$385.52 expenses for Embroidery People/tanks and t-shirts, \$1,332.00 cash/checks deposited, \$342.00 charges via the Square device. Marei noted that the Visitors Center was staffed for 16 days during June and closed for 4 days due to the wall damage incident.

TRAIL MONITORING – Dave and Cathy Bartley reported 493 miles and 65 hours of monitoring activity during the last month.

MAINTENANCE – Due to the absence of Tim Banfield, Mark Place updated us on maintenance activity over the past month as summarized in Tim's report. Recent work during Saturday maintenance sessions covered removal of dead trees including 2 at Donner Street crossing, 3 in Lower Greenock, plus 1 large and 1 small dead tree at the entrance to the Buena Vista boat launch. The crew has continued removing fallen trees/limbs from the mowing areas, clearing overhanging tree limbs along the paved trail at Dead Man's Hollow, and patching pot holes in

various locations along the trail. The side arm tractor was hauled to a mechanic for a steering problem; the boomer tractor is out of service for repairs with parts on order, the chain saws have been cycled through the shop for tune-ups; and the backhoe is currently out of service for cylinder repairs. The new dump truck is now in use during Saturday work sessions, and operational orientation is in process for those volunteers who will be driving the vehicle. New volunteer, Linda Grant, helped out at one of the Saturday work sessions along with another individual who recently joined as a new member. Bill Hall took care of SST cleaning when the cleaning service company was on vacation from 7/14/2018 through 7/20/2018. The SST's at Boston and Dravo are scheduled to be emptied shortly, and it was noted that there are issues with the level of service being provided by the company such as stocking toilet paper in a timely manner. Problems have been experienced at the campground with raccoon(s) harassing campers including a report that someone was bitten by one of the animals. The police department cited 3 individuals on Saturday 8/04/2018 and removed them from the campground facility.

NEWSLETTER –Terry Vota still plans to issue the next publication prior to the annual MYTC election which will include a ballot to avoid the expense of a second mailing. In order to do so, Terry must have input on or before our 9/13/2018 meeting and has requested a Presidents Report and articles on the Visitors Center, Monitoring and the Terry Farrell Ride in addition to the election ballot.

RTC LIAISON – Mary Reid will attend the RTC meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 8/15/2018 and provide a report at our next meeting. Per Charlie Smith, the McKenna Foundation donated funding to the ATA, a third of which will go to the RTC who will split it up among the various trail groups, including MYTC.

COMMUNICATIONS – Mark Place reported that the Committee met on 8/3/2018 and focused on new membership materials, the Trail Town Map, and improvements to social media and the website. Current website administrator, Adam Inlay, demonstrated how the new platform would work, and Andy Eisenbarth has offered to assist. The proposed new site would allow authorized persons to upload information such as the minutes, pictures, reports and event information. Adam proposed that we switch our provider from GoDaddy to a more robust, up-to-date domain to increase upload speed and performance efficiency. Although the current website allows for donations to be made online, joining/donating to MYTC isn't possible. A proposed solution is online membership application and payment by credit card which would satisfy the "signature" requirement. Enhancing our Facebook presence was discussed as well as considering other platforms utilized by different age groups. Adam can initiate access for certain authorized users to update/post information which will make our presence more "real time" regarding weather reports, maintenance projects and current activities. Establishing a better interface with the Elizabeth Township site was also discussed. A new membership brochure is also in the planning process. Mark advised that the ATA has granted MYTC permission to use their map that can be customized for our purposes, with only an ATA acknowledgment requested. The proposed new three-panel brochure would include a small map, and the content and pictures will be updated. A separate Trail Town brochure with a large map and more trail user information specific to our section of trail will be created with links to the online membership application. Community outreach ideas are under consideration including a test presentation to seniors groups which Terry Vota offered to coordinate.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Mark Place summarized information regarding the ATA/P3R Relay Race to be conducted on Friday/Saturday, 10/12/2018-10/13/2018 for which revenue will be shared among the ATA, P3R (organization that handles the Pittsburgh Marathon) and participating trail groups. As many as 70 to 100 teams are expected for the event which typically attracts national interest. This will be a staggered-start relay with baton exchanges at minor and major exchange points, minor handling only a few vans at a time and major requiring room for a significant number of vehicles, etc. MYTC will be involved in three sites - - Exchange #18 West Newton-Buena Vista; Exchange #19 Buena Vista-Boston; Exchange #20 Boston-McKeesport at 15th St. Bridge. There will also be an Exchange Site #21 covering Boston-Duquesne. The estimated time period through these points is from 5:00 AM until 1:30 PM during which the trail will be considered open at all times to normal activities. Volunteers are being requested from local trail groups with an estimated need for 6 projected at Buena Vista and ten at Boston along with those from P3R, as well as involvement of local police and emergency personnel. P3R intends to notify local residents adjacent to the trail by postcard regarding the overnight event to avoid alarming those living along the trail corridor.

OLD BUSINESS – No old business was brought up for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS/MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION – Per Kathy Fawett, Elizabeth Township will have their Fall Festival on Saturday 10/13/2018 at the Community Center from 11:00 AM until 6:00 PM, and MYTC is welcome to have a table for information and sale of merchandise. It was recommended that we use the same display setup as was used at the REI event earlier in the year. David Ringler announced that Dravosburg Community Day is Saturday, 8/25/2018. Mark noted that a nominating committee is needed to select candidates for the upcoming election and asked that anyone interested contact him. Mark suggested that we may want to consider establishing a means of recognition for those who volunteer an extremely high number of hours for MYTC.

ADJOURNMENT – David Ringler made a motion to adjourn at 8:40 PM which was seconded by John Eisenbarth, and the motion carried. The next MYTC meeting will be conducted on Thursday, 9/13/2018, at 7:00 PM.

Mary Reid

Mary Reid, Secretary
Mon/Yough Trail Council
(mytcminutes08092018)