

MON/YOUGH TRAIL COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 14, MCKEESPORT, PA 15135
thebostontrail.com
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP & BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 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 21 members in attendance. A quorum of 9 board members was confirmed as listed below, and Mark introduced visitor, David Wiegel of Buena Vista. Mark advised that an upcoming item of concern is the closing of Industry Road at Rock Run from 9/10/2018 through a projected 6-week period which may impact the Annual Banquet set for 11/10/2018 which also occurred last year during the same timeframe which caused confusion and inconvenience.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Place	Belinda O'Keson	Eileen Lenart	Tim Banfield	John Eisenbarth
Mary Reid	Charlie Smith	Terry Vota	David Ringler	

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Marei Burnfield	Rich Kundman	Kathie Fawcett	Cathy Bartley	Bill Hall
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CURRENT CALENDAR OF EVENTS – Upcoming Events: Boston Harvest Ride 9/16/2018. Adventure Cycling 9/22/2018. Terry Farrell Ride 9/29/2018. Operation Second Chance 10/4/2018. Red Cross Ride for Red 10/6/2018. 5K Run for Huss 10/7/2018. ATA Relay Race 10/12/2018-10/13/2018. Elizabeth Township Fall Fest 10/13/2018. WYTC Beer Fest 10/20/2018. MYTC Banquet 11/10/2018. Rudolph Family 2019 Trail Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 3/24/2019. MYTC Half Marathon/5K 4/20/2019. AED/CPR classes, last Thursday of each month.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – Minutes of the August 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved by the motion of David Ringler, seconded by John Eisenbarth, and the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCE – Tim Banfield presented the July Treasurer's Report which was approved by the motion of John Eisenbarth, seconded by David Ringler, and the motion carried. Tim noted that Visitors Center sales are doing very well and a number of remembrance donations have been received. Tim summarized the bills to be paid including Embroidery People for T-shirts, backhoe batteries, tractor repair parts, UPS Store for printing, and the R.C. Walters monthly hardware store invoice. Payment of the bills as presented was approved by the motion of John Eisenbarth, seconded by Belinda O'Keson, and the motion carried. Tim Banfield reported that he had to implement some payment changes regarding Finance requirements and noted that the Dump Truck account will be closed now that payment has been made in full.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP – Eileen Lenart presented statistics through August 2018 consisting of 500 current members; 5 renewals; 4 new members; 2 interested in volunteering; 9 thank-you letters sent; and \$125.00 in expenses.

VISITORS CENTER – Marei Burnfield's report of activity during August was summarized as follows: 86.5 hours, 15 days staffed during the month, \$856.00 sales, \$48.00 donations, \$561.28 expenses, \$802.00 cash deposited, \$102.00 charges via the Square device. Visitors to date for the season through the end of August represented 36 states and 11 countries as tabulated by volunteer, Jeff Pavetti.

TRAIL MONITORING – In the absence of Dave and Cathy Bartley, David Ringler reported 222 miles and 22 hours of monitoring activity during the last month.

NEWSLETTER – Terry Vota still plans to issue the next publication during the first week of October and include the Board of Directors election ballot to avoid the expense of a second mailing. Terry has most of the articles and input he previously requested other than a maintenance report which he would like to include to reflect the outstanding volunteer work done due to storm damage.

RTC LIAISON – Mary Reid advised that the 8/15/2018 was cancelled so she will attend the next meeting on 9/19/2018 and report on RTC activity at our October MYTC meeting. David Ringler requested that Mary get clarification from the RTC on whether their Treasurers Report is available to membership trail organizations and if they have a nomination committee/process for selecting board members as well as an annual membership meeting.

TERRY FARRELL RIDE – Belinda O’Keson reported that plans are in place for the ride which is scheduled for Saturday, 9/29/2018 and advised that this will be the fifth and final year for the annual event. She thanked everyone for all of their support over the past five years in making the ride such a big success.

MAINTENANCE – Tim Banfield reported recent maintenance such as cutting overhanging trees to the county line, chipping tree limbs/tree removal where necessary, cutting wood for logs at the campground and routine mowing/weed whacking. Other work included painting out graffiti, repairing equipment, and cleaning out a blocked drain near MP123. Dealing with extensive storm damage and determining the best strategy for repair was the primary focus in areas such as the hillside collapse Deadman’s Hollow and washout at the end of Henderson Road. George Sievern will be grilling hot dogs and the lunch ladies including Lois Verminski and Joanna Stewart will provide food and refreshments for the work party this coming weekend.

COMMUNICATIONS – Mark Place advised that website administrator, Adam Inlay, participated in their recent work session meeting. With the new website hosting service, membership and donation processing can now be done online. Adam offered to develop a video that will explain how to input information onto the website. Facebook and other social media platforms were also discussed which will improve the overall online experience.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH – Terry Vota and his cousin attended a local Senior Citizens Fair and did a very nice trail presentation as well as providing handout literature. MYTC will also have an opportunity to pitch our organization to the community and sell merchandize at the Elizabeth Township Fall Fest on Saturday, 10/13/2018. A sort of the membership database by zip code has been done to determine where to focus future outreach efforts.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Mark Place reported that a trail orientation session with Elizabeth Township fire departments was held on 9/5/2018 and went well. Discussions covered dispatch issues, the need for signage and the repair of Henderson Road from the trail to the river to allow fire department access to water. Mark attended an ATA/P3R Relay Race meeting on 8/31/2018 and provided an update on the event set for Friday/Saturday, 10/12/2018-10/13/2018. The first runners are projected to arrive at the Allegheny County line near Sutersville at approximately 4:00 – 4:30 AM, Buena Vista about 5:00 AM and Boston around 7:00 AM with runners spread out at each site over a possible five-hour period. Mark distributed a sheet with required shift times and information about runner check-in, parking monitors and spotters. Mark advised that the only official method for volunteer signup is on the GAP website. It was noted that each participating trail group has an opportunity to share in the profit, similar to the Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival parking venue concept, which will hopefully encourage volunteer support. Charlie, Cliff and Baker have volunteered to work on the light tower needed for the overnight event.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Mark Place commented on the importance of signing the monthly attendance roster which is a key criteria to being qualified as a Board Member. As keeper of the attendance records, Mary Reid offered to chair the Committee consisting of Mark Place, Marei Burnfield and John Eisenbarth. Tim Banfield made a motion to approve the Nominating Committee as presented which was seconded by Belinda O’Keson, dissented by one, and the motion carried. It was noted that the Board terms of Rich Kundman and Belinda O’Keson will expire at the end of 2018. Rich has completed two terms and is therefore no longer eligible to run, and Belinda can seek a second term if she agrees to do so. The Committee will meet as soon as possible to draw up a ballot for inclusion in the upcoming newsletter as previously recommended. As always, voting members will also have an opportunity to write in candidates and/or nominate individuals from the floor during the annual banquet/election.

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

NEW BUSINESS/MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION – As new business, it was brought to our attention that there have been a large number of memorial bench requests during the past year and the question of “how many are too many” was posed; perhaps other items can be donated such as bike repair stations, fountains, bike racks, pet stations, etc. Under miscellaneous discussion, it was noted that John Warhold’s Eagle Scout friend, A.J., volunteered to spruce up the storage trailer at Dravo by painting it and installing solar lights and shelving. He will develop a proposal for this project for MYTC review.

ADJOURNMENT – David Ringler made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM which was seconded by John Eisenbarth, and the motion carried. The next MYTC meeting will be conducted on Thursday, 10/11/2018, at 7:00 PM.

Mary Reid

Mary Reid, Secretary Mon/Yough Trail Council
(mytcminutes09132018)