

**MON/YOUGH TRAIL COUNCIL**  
**P.O. BOX 14, MCKEESPORT, PA 15135**  
**[thebostontrail.com](http://thebostontrail.com)**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP & BOARD MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021**

President, Mark Place, called the monthly meeting of the Mon/Yough Trail Council to order via Zoom in lieu of a live meeting at the Greenock Fire Station with 19 members participating, including a quorum of 11 board members as listed below.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT (\*Teleconference Attendance)**

Mark Place	Tim Banfield	Sarah Helzlsouer	Terry Vota	Eileen Lenart	John Warhold
John Eisenbarth	Kathie Fawcett	Rich Kundman	Linda Vota	Candace Cook	Adrian Marini
Cathy Bartley					

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

No board members absent

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** – Secretary, Mary Reid, presented Minutes of the December meeting for review and approval. A motion to approve both reports was made by John Eisenbarth, seconded by Rich Kundman, and the motion carried.

**CURRENT CALENDAR OF EVENTS** – Eileen Lenart is in charge of the calendar of events. Discussion was made of the events for 2021 – Visitor’s Center opening, Trail opening day after the sewer project has finished, and a celebration of the trail’s 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Eileen asked that she not be emailed with updates for the calendar of events, and a suggestion was made by Mark Place to put together a google calendar to have a shared file for the calendar of events that others can access.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** – Tim Banfield presented the Treasurer’s Reports for December for Adrian Marini, which were reviewed and approved by the motion of John Eisenbarth, seconded by Candace Cook, and the motion carried. He noted a deposit made from PA American Water for the grant for the water fountain and a reimbursement from RAD.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MEMBERSHIP** – Candice Cook reported a current membership total of 550; 14 renewals; 12 new members; renewal mailings will be mailed the following week. 31 newsletter email requests to date; 4 expressing interest in volunteering; 0 removed from roster; \$115 expenses; and 10 volunteer hours for Candace/6 for Rich.

**HALF MARATHON/5K** – Kathie Fawcett reported that registrations keep coming in with 127 participants to date, 56 for the Half Marathon, 71 for the 5K. Race is currently scheduled for June 5, but a backup date has been set for October 9. The contact for 2021 with Donna Bour was determined, and Donna will be contacting others about the new dates for the website and facebook updates.

**YOUGH’N ROLL** – Kathy Banfield reminded us that the date for the Yough N Roll is September 12 and there are no other updates to report at this time.

**FINANCE** – Tim Banfield presented documentation of the operating budget and actuals for 2020, 2019, 2018.

**VISITORS CENTER** – Marei informed us that the opening date of the Visitor’s Center for 2021 will be determined by the end of the sewer project and current Covid status. She has met with the merchandizing committee with RTC and states that new jerseys, headbands neck gators and visors will be available this season, and they are debating whether to offer socks. The 2021 trail guide is currently available for sale.

**TRAIL MONITORS** – Nothing to report since November.

**MAINTENANCE** – Tim Banfield provided his monthly summary as follows:

**Saturday/Weekday Work Sessions** – Cleared overgrowth around Industry Bridge abutments and did some additional clean-out of drainage ditch near Red Falls, continued clean-up and organization around shop and old office trailer.

**Equipment Status** – No updates

**Grant Status** – RAD grant for Streambank Stabilization: Remaining balance of \$28,263. Submitted phase I close-out paperwork to US Army Corps of Engineers on 12/17. Need to get firm proposals Phase II (paving/guard rail along Durabond Bypass) and provide updated estimate to ALT/RAD. Also want to get proposals on additional drain work between Industry and County line.

**American Water Fountain -** In touch with contractor about finishing installation

**Tire replacement for equipment** (Trail Volunteer Fund) - \$618 remains 12/31 New rear tires for Ford Tractor still to do.

**SST status** – Keeping Blythedale open and serviced during winter months.

**2021 Plans** – Planning committee meeting on 2021 activities to happen before February board meeting

**NEWSLETTER** – Terry Vota is in the process of collecting information for the next edition and has already received input from Bob Cupp, Mark Place and Don Baker. He is targeting April 2021 but asked whether or not we should wait until the trail is officially reopened following completion of the sewer project. Terry noted that since 2021 is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of MYTC, a celebration would be appropriate, possibly combined with the American Water Company Fountain dedication, and Candace Cook volunteered to assist with this effort. Eileen Lenart commented that she has lots of pictures of the large equipment currently on the trail during the sewer project but was advised that due to potential contractor liability issues, MYTC is not permitted to publish these photos; however, we may want to consider creating a project scrapbook for this purpose.

**RTC REPORT** – Mary Reid reported no retreat this year. Graffiti policy has been put out – graffiti is to be cleaned up as soon as possible. If graffiti is reported to the RTC, then RTC would notify the trail group to clean it up. If it involves painting, match the paint as well as possible. Give the paint numbers to the RTC office to have it on record if it happens again for repairs going forward.

The GAP history project is up and running, ATA name changed to GAP conservancy.

Rockwood shuttle has gone out of business.

Next liaison meeting is February 17.

**COMMUNICATIONS** – Mark Place shared some general information regarding the Whitsett trail, advising that Blaha Excavating has done a lot of drainage and grading work along that section and noted that there are long term maintenance needs in that area.

**NEIGHBORING TRAILS** – David Ringler reported that the Steel Valley trail is working on graffiti cleanup at the Glenwood bridge wall, painting over the graffiti. The Jerome street bridge should be open for travelers during the bridge work.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – Update on the sewer project was given that it is currently on track, bollards and gates are current open/down and new drains have been covered. Bids are due for both treatment centers.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Discussion of event guideline poster being posted at Boston and Sutersville, the draft of the Articles of Association was circulated, will be reviewed and then sent to the RTC in February.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Discussion of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, dedication of the fountain, appreciation day combined with Yough N Roll with a promotion sign on the trailcar, stickers on our newsletters. Mary Reid cleaned up the by-laws and they have been posted on the Boston trail website. Rich has submitted his resignation of the Rotary Club and is no longer a member as of 1/1.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Rich Kundman made motion to adjourn at 8:29, seconded by Kathie Fawcett, motion carried. The next MYTC meeting will be conducted on Thursday, 2/11/2021 beginning at 7:00 PM via Zoom in lieu of a live meeting at the Greenock Fire Station.

*Sarah Helzlsouer*