

East Bradford Township Trails Committee (Subcommittee of the Parks & Recreation Board) Regular Meeting Minutes January 24, 2013

The January regular meeting of the East Bradford Township Trails Committee (TC) (Subcommittee of the Parks and Recreation Board) was held on January 24, 2013 in the McCardle Meeting Room of the Township Building, 666 Copeland School Road, West Chester, County of Chester, PA 19380-1822.

Committee members present:

John Spangler, Chair
Fred Rothman, Vice Chair (prior to organization)
Dave Baxter
Michael Colley
Mose Cornwell
Sheila Fleming
John Hagens
Harry Hatzipavlidis, Vice Chair (after organization)
Bob Hawkes
Maria Kenny
Betsey Mehl
Josie Parman
Andy Schaum
Jacob Singer
Jim Wakefield

Committee members absent: None

Staff/Professionals present:

Mandie Cantlin, Trails Committee Liaison and Assistant Township Manager

Staff/Professionals absent: None

Others in attendance:

Dave Redmond

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Chair Spangler.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ORGANIZATION FOR 2013:

The Trails Committee formerly welcomed new members Bob Hawkes and Jim Wakefield to the Committee.

The Commission unanimously agreed to appoint Mandie Cantlin as Temporary Chair for the purpose of taking nominations for Chair.

Mr. Schaum made a motion to reappoint John Spangler as Chair. Mr. Singer seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Hagens made a motion to reappoint Fred Rothman as Vice Chair. Mr. Rothman commented that he had a busy schedule and made a subsequent motion to appoint Harry Hatzipavlidis as Vice Chair. Mr. Spangler seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Singer made a motion to reappoint Mandie Cantlin as recording secretary. Mr. Spangler seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Cantlin asked the Committee members to review and sign the Ethics Statement.

MINUTES: Ms. Parman made a motion to approve the minutes from December 20, 2012, as presented. Mr. Baxter seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Brandywine Trail; Skelp Level Segment – The County, DCNR, and Brandywine Conservancy have reviewed and approved the bid specs for the trail. PECO approval is pending. Once PECO signs off on the bid specs, the project can go to bid. There has been further discussion among West Chester Fish and Game about signing the M. John Johnson Nature Trails over to the Township. Ms. Cantlin anticipates that the Township will receive a letter from WCF&G formerly requesting that the Township take over the trails. If/when the Township receives this letter, Ms. Cantlin will ask the Parks and Recreation Board and Trails Committee for a recommendation.
2. Brandywine Trail; Ingram's Segment – The site meeting scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed. The County is reaching out to PennDOT to involve them in the trail planning and get their input on the Rt 162 crossing. Dr. Hagens reiterated that primary concerns of the Parke Farm HOA include liability (for the Copes Lane crossing) and effectively restricting public access from the private HOA trails. There was some discussion about the Creek Road Crossing (Ingram's Mill to NLT/Hawkes) and additional Rt 162 crossing options.
3. Brookworth Trails – Neighbor Andrew Monger emailed his thoughts on the Brookworth trail options to Ms. Cantlin. He suggested changes to the trail layout and noted that he desires to see the stream rerouted to prevent further erosion. Mr. Spangler will reach out to Charlie Myhre to discuss Boy Scout opportunities and contact Bob Struble to talk about options to improve the stream corridor.
4. CCWA Trails – Chester County GPS'd a portion of the CCWA trails two weeks ago. Ms. Cantlin will authorize the County to do mapping on additional Camp trails.
5. Harmony Hill Nature Area – Mr. Spangler discussed a potential Eagle Scout project that would involve constructing a trail between the Skelp Level parking area and the proposed CCWA loop. Mr. Schaum had no objections. Ms. Cantlin will reach out to Public Works Foreman John Carroll to locate the best place to cross Skelp Level Road.
6. Paradise Valley Trail Closure – Ms. Cantlin received an updated proposal, but has not reviewed it yet. She discussed the project with Township Manager Michael Lynch who suggested that she work with the Committee to refine the project scope before presenting it to the Supervisors.
7. 2013 Trail Blazer Race – Next meeting Jan 24 at 1 pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Harmony Hill / Happy Creek / Sunset Hollow – When the Happy Creek community was planned between 1970-1990, the Planning Commission made a recommendation that the Supervisors reserve a right-of-way that would provide connectivity from Harmony Hill Road (at Guthrie) south to Sunset Hollow Road. However, this corridor was never reserved. The Supervisors asked the Trails Committee to consider whether it makes sense to pursue this connection now. After discussion, the Committee decided that it made sense to focus on the preservation of adjacent properties first. Once the outcome of the conservation project is known, the Committee will consider visiting the Township's Sunset Hollow open space to consider the importance and viability of this connection.
2. Round 25 Chester County Municipal Grant Program – Ms. Cantlin will be submitting a conservation easement grant to Chester County. Mr. Singer made a motion to endorse the grant application. Mr. Spangler seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Bradford Plaza Entrance (Rt 322) – Mr. Spangler summarized the site meeting that included County and PennDOT representatives. The purpose of the meeting was to consider ways to improve pedestrian access to the shopping center from Rt 322. County Transportation Director Randy Waltermeyer is working on some mapping. If this effort is to move forward, coordination and cooperation with West Chester Borough and the Chester County Housing Authority will be essential.
4. Sunset Valley Farm Connectivity – The boarders at Sunset Valley Farm would like to access the Brandywine Trail. Currently, they cannot access the Brandywine without trespassing on private property. In addition, equestrian use is

not permitted on the Brandywine Trail. Ms. Kenny would like her boarders to be able to legally traverse the land between her farm and trails to the west; concurrently, she is open to allowing public access on her property. Ms. Cantlin will pull notes from prior discussions about access to/from Sunset Valley Farm and share the information at the next meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

1. Members' Trails Inspections – Mr. Rothman and Mr. Hatzipavrides provided updates.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Trails Committee is scheduled for February 28, 2013 at 12:00 noon.

ADJOURNMENT / CONTINUANCE: At approximately 1:15 pm, the Committee unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting.

Amanda "Mandie" Cantlin
Trails Committee Secretary

TRAILS COMMITTEE INSPECTION ASSIGNMENTS:

<u>Park / Open Space</u>	<u>Member Assignment</u>	<u>Last Visit</u>
Blue Rock Trail	Fred Rothman	April 2012
Brandywine Trail (regional; white blaze)	Dave Redmond	November 2012
Brandywine Trail (regional; white blaze) from Route 322 to Allerton (Deborah's Rock)	Mose Cornwell, Josie Parman	November 2012 (D Redmond)
Brandywine Trail; South segment	Betsey Mehl	
Brookworth Trail	John Spangler	November 2012
Harmony Hill Nature Area; red and yellow	Dave Baxter	November 2012 (various users reporting conditions)
Harmony Hill Nature Area; blue and black	Bill Fuhs	November 2012 (various users reporting conditions)
Harmony Hill Nature Area; green trail	Maria Kenny, Sheila Fleming	November 2012 (various users reporting conditions)
Jane Reed and Copeland School trails	Harry Hatzipavrides	December 2012
Paradise Valley Nature Area	Michael Colley, Andy Schaum	November 2012
Shaw's Bridge	Fred Rothman	January 2013
Singer Farm	Jacob Singer, John/Susan Hagens	February 2012
Starr Farm	Mike Colley	

TRAILS COMMITTEE PRIORITIES:

High

Brandywine Trail – Phase 3 (South Segment to Skelp Level)
Brandywine Trail – Phase 5 (Ingram's Mill to Stroud)
CCWA trails & easement
County Seat Corridor – Scanneltown Road (Mt. Bradford – Scanneltown Park)
Paradise Valley Nature Area (trail improvements & washout)
Brookworth

Medium

Brandywine Farm
Brandywine Trail – Phase 4 (Skelp Level to Ingram's Mill)
Copeland to East Bradford Park (AKA Recreational Use along Roads)
Jane Reed Park (there was discussion about reaching out the school to encourage more use by the school)
Miner Street Open Space – Allerton Road / Creek Road Bike / Ped Improvement
Plum Run Watershed

Low

County Seat Corridor – All other segments
Guthrie
Ravine to Brandywine Road
Sunset Hollow Road