

East Bradford Township Trails Committee (Subcommittee of the Parks & Recreation Board) Regular Meeting Minutes April 25, 2013

The April regular meeting of the East Bradford Township Trails Committee (TC) (Subcommittee of the Parks and Recreation Board) was held on April 25, 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
Dave Baxter
John Hagens
Bob Hawkes
Maria Kenny
Betsey Mehl
Fred Rothman
Andy Schaum
Jacob Singer
Jim Wakefield

Committee members absent:

Michael Colley
Mose Cornwell
Sheila Fleming
Harry Hatzipavrides, Vice Chair
Josie Parman

Staff/Professionals present:

Mandie Cantlin, Trails Committee Liaison and Assistant Township Manager

Staff/Professionals absent: None

Others in attendance:

Dave Redmond
S. Damon Kletzien

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES: Mr. Spangler made a motion to approve the minutes from March 28, 2013, as amended. Dr. Hagens seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Brandywine Trail; Ingram's Segment – John Spangler, John Hagens, and Mandie Cantlin were present at the annual Parke Farm HOA meeting to discuss the trail concept. The homeowners present were receptive to the concept. Several expressed concern about crossing Rt 162. Next steps:
 - a. Mr. Spangler will review the Parke Farm declaration and begin to draft a trail easement agreement for the HOA's consideration. Ms. Cantlin will provide a trail easement template for his use.
 - b. Mr. Schaum made a motion to recommend that the Supervisors solicit engineering proposals to design the Rt 162 crossing so that engineering funds can be considered for the 2014 budget. Mr. Baxter seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.
 - c. Begin to review the Brandywine Conservancy easement that addresses the approved trail location on the Stroud Preserve property.
 - d. Consider where and how the trail will cross Taylor Run.

2. Brandywine Trail; Skelp Level Segment – PECO approval is pending. There was no discussion.
3. Brookworth Trails – As a follow-up to the discussion with Mr. Mongar last month, Ms. Cantlin communicated Mr. Mongar's trash concerns to the EAC, Green Committee, and West Chester Borough. The neighborhood trash pick-up occurred on Sunday April 28. Ms. Cantlin worked with Mr. Mongar to flag the trail reroute; a work day may be scheduled to clear the trail in the future. She also sent him a link to NLT's Stewardship Manual, which contains information about vine removal. Mr. Hawkes shared a painting of the Brookworth Farm that shows the landscape 80-100 years ago.
4. Paradise Farm Camp (PFC) Trails – The community work day spearheaded by XL Group is scheduled for Thursday May 23.
5. Harmony Hill Nature Area (HHNA) / PFC Skelp Level Road Crossing – The Eagle Scout trail project that will facilitate the connection between the HHNA parking lot and the Camp trails was approved by the Traffic Committee; the Scout begins work next weekend. Mr. Redmond asked about the feasibility of widening the driveway.
6. M. John Johnson Nature Center – Mr. Colley informed Ms. Cantlin that West Chester Fish and Game approved the transfer of the M. John Johnson Nature Center trails to the Township. Ms. Cantlin will follow-up with Mr. Johnson.
7. Paradise Valley Nature Area – The Board of Supervisors asked Ms. Cantlin to evaluate the reroute opportunities before they consider spending money to evaluate soils. She will coordinate a day to review reroute options with the Camp and communicate the site visit date to Trails Committee members.
8. 2013 Trail Blazer Race – Several Committee members met on April 19 and will meet after this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

1. Tree Planting; Saturday May 11 at Brandywine Farm – 750 trees will be provided through the TreeVitalize program; West Chester University will be supplying tools. Donuts and coffee will be provided.
2. Trail Blazer Race; Thursday June 13 at 6:30 pm – This year's events included a 5k run and 5k walk on Valley Creek Road and 5k and 10k trail runs on the Paradise Farm Camp's trail network (no bussing this year). Participants will receive a technical T-shirt on race day. In addition, Victory Brewing Company is once again sponsoring a party after the races, during which all participants will receive a cold beer (root beer for minors). Food will be available for purchase.
3. Power Backup Alternatives Forum; Wednesday June 19 at 7:00 pm – East Bradford Township is holding a forum on the wide range of power backup alternatives (their pros, cons and costs) at the Township Building. The forum will include: displays of the power backup alternatives, short presentations from the experts, and a question and answer session.
4. Members' Trails Inspections – No discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEXT MEETING: The Committee decided to cancel the May 23 meeting because it conflicts with the XL work day at Paradise Farm Camps. The next meeting of the Trails Committee is scheduled for June 27, 2013 at 12:00 noon.

ADJOURNMENT / CONTINUANCE: At approximately 12:45 pm, the Committee unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting.

Amanda "Mandie" Cantlin
Trails Committee Secretary

TRAILS COMMITTEE INSPECTION ASSIGNMENTS:

Date Last Inspected

Dave Baxter – Harmony Hill Nature Area; red and yellow trails
Michael Colley – Paradise Valley Nature Area & Starr Farm Park
Mose Cornwell – (Floating)
Sheila Fleming – Harmony Hill Nature Area; green trail
John Hagens – Timber Top Farm & Brandywine Trail
Harry Hatzipavrides – Jane Reed & Copeland / East Bradford Park trail
Bob Hawkes – Paradise Valley Nature Area
Maria Kenny – Harmony Hill Nature Area; green trail
Betsey Mehl – (Floating)
Josie Parman – (Floating)
Fred Rothman – Shaw's Bridge & Blue Rock Trail
Andy Schaum – Paradise Valley Nature Area & Brandywine Trail
Jacob Singer – Timber Top Farm
John Spangler – Harmony Hill Nature Area; blue and black
Jim Wakefield – TBD

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 – Sconnettown Road (Mt. Bradford – **Sconnettown 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
Sunset Hollow / Happy Creek / Harmony Hill (if applicable)

Bold items in 2013 budget