

East Bradford Township Trails Committee (Subcommittee of the Parks & Recreation Board) Regular Meeting Minutes December 18, 2014

The December regular meeting of the East Bradford Township Trails Committee (TC) (subcommittee of the Parks and Recreation (P&R) Board) was held on December 18, 2014 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
Harry Hatzipavlidis, Vice Chair
Sheila Fleming
Bob Hawkes
Maria Kenny
Betsey Mehl
Josie Parman
Andy Schaum
Jacob Singer
Jim Wakefield

Committee members absent:

Dave Baxter
Michael Colley
Mose Cornwell
Fred Rothman
John Hagens

Staff/Professionals present:

Mandie Cantlin, Trails Committee Liaison and Assistant Township Manager
Mark Lucas, P.E., Township Engineer

Staff/Professionals absent: None

Others in attendance:

Dave Redmond
Joe Hamel
Damon Kletzien

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

Mr. Lynch and Ms. Cantlin expressed that the Township is grateful to the Committee for its energetic dedication to the Township trails program this past year!

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES: Ms. Parman made a motion to approve the minutes from October 23, 2014 as presented (there was no meeting in November). Mr. Schaum seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Brandywine Trail –
 - a. Rules / regulations – A sub-group consisting of Mr. Spangler, Mr. Wakefield, and West Bradford staff, will soon begin to craft regulations to govern the use of the paved trail. New signs were posted at the trail entrance points and the existing sign at the bridge was turned around. Ms. Cantlin reported that the signs on the timbers of the bridge recently were vandalized; West Bradford will replace them.

- b. Rt. 322 realignment – PennDOT is making progress with plans to reconstruct the Rt. 322 bridge at Sugars Bridge Road. The new bridge will be south of the existing bridge and Rt. 322 will be realigned accordingly. Construction tentatively is slated for 2017. PennDOT has expressed interest in transferring the abandoned roadway to the municipalities. If this occurs, East Bradford could use this ground for additional parking and a new trail head. There may be an opportunity to apply for funding – potentially in partnership with West Bradford – to plan the new intersection as well as pedestrian/cycling facilities extending to the east and west.
 - c. Phase 5 feasibility study – The Supervisors reviewed the feasibility study for Phase 5 and had no further comment. The Township will consider next steps for this project in 2015.
2. Paradise Farm Camps Trails:
 - a. Chapel Trail – The Township received the trail assessment from Penn Trails earlier this week. The next step is to carefully consider how the trail will be managed and for what type(s) of users. Those decisions will influence the alignment and washout remedy.
 - b. Skelp Level Road Public Trail – The Township and Camp agreed to work together to achieve the trail opening by March 2015.
 3. Naturalist Walks – Mr. Spangler, Mr. Hawkes, and Mr. Colley met earlier in the fall to discuss the naturalist walk effort. They suggested coordinating the first walk with the opening of the CCWA-PFC public trail in the spring of 2015. The group has been in contact with Wynn Fairchild at West Chester University.
 4. 2015 Trail Blazer Run –
 - a. Distance – The group has contemplated several distance options. The vast majority of comparable runs seem to be 5ks, so the group wondered whether a 5k would pull more people than a 5 mile. Several members indicated a preference to continue with the 5 mile trail run stating that it would set the race apart from the other 5ks and that it seems to have worked well in the past. Mr. Wakefield's concern with the 5 mile is that it could be too long in extreme heat. However, others countered that it's rare to have extreme heat in June and that the race occurs in the evening and is located in the woods. The group agreed to keep the 5 mile run distance. Ms. Kenny noted that it is important to communicate the challenging nature of the course in the marketing materials.
 - b. Logo – The group considered several options for an updated logo. A variety of logo color options and layouts were prepared by Iwona Piatkowska. After much discussion, the group agreed it wanted to see a compilation of several designs that utilize the blue/red/gray color scheme with trees on a rugged contour line above the words. The group was appreciative of Iwona's time and effort.

NEW BUSINESS: None

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

1. Brandywine Creek Greenway – Ms. Fleming reported that Strategic Action plan is complete and available on line. She is looking forward to digging into implementation next year.
2. TC Meetings and Membership – In 2015, the TC meeting will move back to the 3rd Thursday so that the Trails Committee meets before the Parks and Recreation Board. This will help in the flow of information between the subcommittee and the “parent” board. Beginning in January, a total of four seats will be designated for P&R members to further improve coordination between the two groups.
3. Member's Trail Inspections – No discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEXT MEETING: The next scheduled meeting of the Trails Committee is January 15, 2015 (3rd Thursday) at 12 noon.

ADJOURNMENT / CONTINUANCE: At approximately 1:30 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	September 2013
Mandie Cantlin – (Floating)	May 2014 (Starr, HHNA)
Michael Colley – Paradise Valley Nature Area & Starr Farm Park	August 2014
Mose Cornwell – (Floating)	
Sheila Fleming – Harmony Hill Nature Area; green trail	July 2013
John Hagens – Timber Top Farm & Brandywine Trail	July 2013
Harry Hatzipavlidis – Jane Reed & Copeland / East Bradford Park trail	July 2013
Bob Hawkes – Paradise Valley Nature Area	March 2014 – WORK NEEDED
Maria Kenny – Harmony Hill Nature Area; green trail	
Betsey Mehl – (Floating)	July 2013 (Timber Top)
Josie Parman – (Floating)	
Fred Rothman – Shaw's Bridge & Blue Rock Trail	April 2014
Andy Schaum – Paradise Valley Nature Area & Brandywine Trail	March 2014 – WORK NEEDED
Jacob Singer – Timber Top Farm	March 2014 – WORK NEEDED
John Spangler – Harmony Hill Nature Area; blue and black	July 2013
Jim Wakefield – TBD	

TRAILS COMMITTEE PRIORITIES (2014):

- ~~1. Brandywine Trail – Phase 3 (South Segment to Skelp Level)~~
2. PFC-CCWA trails & easement
- ~~3. Widen the entrance to Harmony Hill Nature Area (at Skelp Level)~~
- ~~4. Provide a port-a-potty at the Brandywine Trail (Harmony Hill Rd); encourage W. Bradford to do the same~~
5. Brandywine Trail Phase 5 feasibility
6. Paradise Valley Nature Area (trail improvements, washout, & Valley Creek fish habitat improvement)
7. Mt. Bradford Improvements (meadow restoration, parking area, paved trail, ~~pond inspection~~)

Other projects that are not prioritized include:

- Bike/ped improvements along Sconnettown Road (Mt. Bradford to Sconnettown Park)
- Brookworth Trails (and connection to WCB)
- Brandywine Farm
- Brandywine Trail – Phase 4 (Skelp Level to Ingram's Mill)
- Improve / repave trail between Copeland and East Bradford Park
- Fire Company trail
- Construct off-road path to improve bike use at Allerton Road / Creek Road / Miner St intersection
- Plum Run Watershed
- Guthrie trail easement
- Ravine to Brandywine Road
- Sunset Hollow Road
- Sunset Hollow / Happy Creek / Harmony Hill