

# East Bradford Township Trails Committee (Subcommittee of the Parks & Recreation Board) Regular Meeting Minutes February 19, 2015

The February regular meeting of the East Bradford Township Trails Committee (TC) (subcommittee of the Parks and Recreation (P&R) Board) was held on February 19, 2015 in the McCardle Meeting Room of the Township Building, 666 Copeland School Road, West Chester, County of Chester, PA 19380-1822.

**Committee members present:**

Harry Hatzipavlidis, Vice Chair  
Tony Blanco  
Michael Colley  
Sheila Fleming  
Joseph Hamel  
Bob Hawkes  
Maria Kenny  
Josie Parman  
Andy Schaum  
Jacob Singer  
Jim Wakefield

**Committee members absent:**

John Spangler, Chair  
Dave Baxter  
Mose Cornwell  
Betsey Mehl  
Fred Rothman

**Staff/Professionals present:**

Mandie Cantlin, Trails Committee Liaison and Assistant Township Manager

**Staff/Professionals absent:** None

**Others in attendance:**

Damon Kletzien

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**MINUTES:** The Committee noted that the January 15 minutes were not available on line. Ms. Cantlin will post the minutes for January. Both the January and February minutes will be presented for acceptance in March.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Brandywine Trail –

- a. Rules / regulations – A sub-group consisting of Mr. Spangler, Mr. Wakefield, and West Bradford staff, was developed with the purpose of crafting regulations to govern the use of the paved trail. There was no update.
- 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. Ms. Cantlin is exploring funding opportunities to plan these new amenities.

- c. Survey – The Rails-to-Trails Conservancy has a grant from the William Penn Foundation to conduct user surveys on trails that are part of the evolving Circuit trail network. They would like to collect surveys on the East Branch Brandywine Trail this summer by putting the surveys in boxes along the trail. Ms. Cantlin distributed a copy of the survey to the Committee and noted that the Conservancy would share the results of the Brandywine Trail survey with the Township, which would aid in future trail planning. The Trails Committee is supportive of this effort.
2. Brandywine Trail Networking Event – In lieu of a ribbon cutting event for the third phase of the Brandywine Trail, the Township is planning to host a networking event on Friday May 29 in the morning. The purpose of the event is to create an information-sharing and networking event with the purposes of: 1) Giving thanks to those who have made the Brandywine Trail projects a success, 2) Providing information about – and building support for – future projects, and 3) Providing a networking opportunity. The Township would invite those who provided funding support for the Brandywine Trail, public agencies, and Township advisory boards and committees (approximately 125 people). The event likely will take place at the Township building and breakfast will be provided. Mr. Schaum offered the Paradise Farm Camp dining hall as an optional location. Ms. Cantlin is in the process of reaching out to a number of entities that have interest in the future of the Brandywine Trail and asking them to attend to share information about future projects. Attendees will include the Chester County Planning Commission, the Brandywine Conservancy, and the Wilmington and Chester County Trail Clubs. Other possible attendees might include the Chester County Cycling Coalition and PennDOT. The morning will begin with a meet-and-greet period, followed by a welcome and words from key funders/stakeholders. There may be an option for people to take a shuttle to/from the trail from the Township building. Ms. Cantlin encouraged the Committee members to put this event on their calendars.
3. Brookworth Trail – For several years now there has been limited interest in improving the small trail loop that is located between Highland Road and the Brookworth Shopping Center. There appear to be residents in the area that are interested in making this area more usable, but they need guidance in terms of trail construction. Mr. Spangler and Ms. Cantlin are working on a letter to send to neighboring residents to gauge their interest in this effort.
4. Paradise Farm Camps Trails –
  - a. Chapel Trail – The Supervisors supported the recommendation of the Trails Committee and authorized a small working group (Schaum, Spangler, Cantlin) to work with PennTrails to develop a plan to remediate the washout area first (so that the trail can be reopened) and develop a phased approach utilizing volunteer labor to the greatest extent possible to work outward from the washout. PennTrails is in the process of developing a proposal for this additional work.
  - b. Skelp Level Road Public Trail – The Township and Camp are working together to achieve the trail opening this spring. At least one volunteer work day will be needed to clear the trail; Ms. Cantlin and Mr. Schaum will notify the Committee once a work day is scheduled.
5. Naturalist Walks – Mr. Spangler, Mr. Hawkes, and Mr. Colley continue to work on the naturalist walks. The first walk is tentatively scheduled to occur in May using the Paradise Farm Camp Skelp Level Road Public Trail.
6. 2015 Trail Blazer Run – The race group will meet after this meeting to discuss the logo, budget, sponsorship packet, sponsors, and responsibilities.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Chester County Municipal Grant – The Township will be submitting a grant to Chester County at the end of the month to seek funding to acquire a 6.9-acre property adjacent to the Plum Run in the Strode's Mill Historic District. The Trails Committee is supportive of this application. Mr. Hatzipavlidis made a motion to support the grant application. Mr. Schaum seconded the motion. There was no further comment and the motion passed unanimously.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

1. Brandywine Creek Greenway – The Brandywine Conservancy staff met with Kendra McMillin, Andrew Schaum, Gerry Hertel, Damon Kletzien, and Mandie Cantlin earlier in the month to begin work on the Plum Run Corridor.
2. Member’s Trail Inspections – No discussion.
3. Ethics statements – Nancy Holland distributed copies of the ethics statements for signature. Members need to sign and return the form to Ms. Holland.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**NEXT MEETING:** The next scheduled meeting of the Trails Committee is March 19, 2015 at 12 noon.

**ADJOURNMENT / CONTINUANCE:** At approximately 12:50 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
Tony Blanco – TBD	
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
Joe Hamel – TBD	
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 (2015):**

1. PFC-CCWA trails & easement
2. Brandywine Trail Phase 5 feasibility
3. Paradise Valley Nature Area (trail improvements, washout, & Valley Creek fish habitat improvement)
4. Mt. Bradford Improvements (meadow restoration, parking area, paved trail)

Other projects that are not prioritized include:

- Bike/ped improvements along Sconnelltown Road (Mt. Bradford to Sconnelltown 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