

# East Bradford Township Trails Committee (Subcommittee of the Parks & Recreation Board) Regular Meeting Minutes September 17, 2015

The September regular meeting of the East Bradford Township Trails Committee (TC) (subcommittee of the Parks and Recreation (P&R) Board) was held on September 17, 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:**

John Spangler, Chair  
Harry Hatzipavlidis, Vice Chair  
Tony Blanco  
Michael Colley  
Bob Hawkes  
Maria Kenny  
Josie Parman  
Andy Schaum  
Jim Wakefield

**Committee members absent:**

Sheila Fleming  
Joseph Hamel  
Betsey Mehl  
Fred Rothman  
Jacob Singer

**Staff/Professionals present:**

Mandie Cantlin, Trails Committee Liaison and Assistant Township Manager

**Staff/Professionals absent:** None

**Others in attendance:** There was a guest in attendance – Kendra McMillin, West Chester University. Ms. McMillin has had a vital role in the Shaw's Bridge tree planting, the Plum Run corridor, and is slated to be a guide for a future naturalist walk.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**MINUTES:** Mr. Blanco made a motion to approve the minutes from August 20, 2015, as presented. Ms. Parman seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Mose Cornwell – Ms. Cantlin announced that Mose Cornwell resigned from the Committee. The Committee and the Township are grateful for his contribution.
2. 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. Mr. Spangler and Mr. Wakefield agreed that the fall would be a good time to revisit this effort.
  - b. Rt 322 Bridge Realignment – PennDOT appears to be resistant to further consideration of a Rt 322 underpass to further the Brandywine Trail southward. However, through the County, the Township is hoping to schedule a meeting with PennDOT, County officials, and legislators to discuss the value of the underpass trail crossing.

3. Paradise Farm Camps Trails –
  - a. Hogs' Hollow Trail – The trail is open. There are a few open tasks (e.g. crosswalk) that will be finished in the near future.
  - b. Chapel Trail – PennTrails conducted a 2-day trail construction training on September 9-10. Participants included Township staff, Camp staff, and representatives from other municipalities and land trusts. The group was able to advance some of the improvements listed in the assessment report. Additional work is planned this weekend during a Day of Caring event at the Camp. PennTrails also submitted a proposal to repair the washout section of the trail. The Camp and Township are just beginning to review and assess the proposal.
  - c. XL Global Day of Giving – Employees from XL were planning to join PennTrails and others on September 10, but canceled due to rain. The Township and Camp are in the process of scheduling a rain date for the work day.
4. Naturalist Guided Walks – The group has been working to confirm the date, time, and marketing for the fall walk. The walk is tentatively scheduled for November 8. Tim Lutz will lead the walk. The time is TBD.
5. 2016 Priorities – The group decided to focus on the following priorities for the coming year:
  - a. Hog's Hollow Trail (almost done)
  - b. Paradise Valley Nature Area (trail improvements, washout, & Valley Creek fish habitat improvement)
  - c. Mt. Bradford Improvements (meadow restoration, parking area, paved trail)
  - d. Brandywine Trail Phase 1 drainage improvements
  - e. Brandywine Trail Phase 5
  - f. Plum Run Corridor
6. 2015 Trail Blazer Run – The race group will meet after this meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

1. Brandywine Creek Greenway and Plum Run Green Corridor – No update.
2. Chester Valley Trail Extension – The first steering committee meeting took place on September 10. The Chester County Planning Commission provided a project overview. The project schedule is anticipated to span approximately 18 months – into December 2016. The schedule includes nine steering committee meetings and three public meetings. There are 28 steering committee participants representing six municipalities (West Bradford Township, East Bradford Township, Downingtown Borough, East Caln Township, Caln Township, and West Whiteland Township), Friends of the Chester Valley Trail, PennDOT, CC Parks & Facilities, CC Community Development, Victory Brewing, CC Chamber of Business & Industry, TMAAC, DCNR, Norfolk Southern, and DVRPC/The Circuit. Sheila Fleming and Mandie Cantlin are the East Bradford representatives. The County will be posting information and updates on a project website – [www.chesco.org/planning/cvte](http://www.chesco.org/planning/cvte). The next meetings are: 10/8/2015 (public meeting #1; location TBD) and 10/22/2015 (steering committee meeting #2).
3. Comprehensive Plan – A community workshop is scheduled for September 29 between 5-8 pm. The open house will take place in the new East Bradford Township Public Works Garage. At the Open House, the Township will:
  - a. Provide a summary of the online community survey, which was completed this summer by nearly 400 residents (survey results are posted on the Township website)
  - b. Ask for input on goals to improve East Bradford's main corridors, including Downingtown Pike, Bradford Avenue, and Lenape Road
  - c. Ask participants to prioritize proposed projects intended to enhance biking and walking in the Township

Presentations and facilitated discussion will be provided at three times throughout the evening – at 5:30, 6:30, and 7:30. There is no need to attend the full 3-hour duration – attendees will be able to fully participate in the presentation and activities within about an hour.

4. Township Lands – Mr. Blanco and others inquired whether the Township would consider selling some of its properties to generate funding to complete park/recreational projects. Ms. Cantlin commented that the Township is in the early stages of subdividing a portion of the Brandywine Farm property for future sale. The Township is also considering selling a lot it owns on Greene Country Drive. The majority of the other properties owned by the Township have varying restrictions on them that prohibit residential development. Some have County and/or State restrictions and most are restricted by conservation easements held by North American Lands Trusts. Mr. Spangler asked whether Sconnelltown Park was subject to an easement, too. Ms. Cantlin will check and verify. [Note: after the meeting Ms. Cantlin verified that there is a conservation easement on Sconnelltown Park.]
5. Chester County Art Association Trail – Mr. Wakefield asked whether there had been any progress on the CCAA trail. Mr. Schuam noted that the trail connection could have relevance to the Committee given the direction of the Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Cantlin will check on the status of the project and provide an update at a future meeting.
6. Meadow management – Mr. Wakefield asked about regulations that would impact the development of a meadow in a community (e.g. Windon is interested in developing a meadow on about 4 acres). Ms. Cantlin will look into the current Code parameters and will research the relevance of an open space management plan and/or MOU.
7. Member's Trail Inspections –
  - a. Blue Rock Trail (Fred Rothman) – Mr. Rothman reported that the trail will soon need to be cut back
  - b. Brandywine Trail (Andy Schaum) – The Township will be working to address drainage issues in 2016.
  - c. Copeland / East Bradford Park Trail (Harry Hatzipavrides) – \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Harmony Hill Nature Area; red and yellow trails (John Spangler; Tony Blanco) – \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Harmony Hill Nature Area; green trail (Sheila Fleming; Maria Kenny; John Spangler; Tony Blanco) – \_\_\_\_\_
  - f. Harmony Hill Nature Area; blue and black (John Spangler; Tony Blanco) – \_\_\_\_\_
  - g. Historic Brandywine Trail – \_\_\_\_\_
  - h. Jane Reed Park (Harry Hatzipavrides) – The entrance to the trail (southern side of the loop) was mowed.
  - i. Paradise Valley Nature Area (Michael Colley; Bob Hawkes; Andy Schaum) – Mr. Colley mowed the field trail in August.
  - j. Shaw's Bridge (Fred Rothman) – \_\_\_\_\_
  - k. Starr Farm Park (Michael Colley) – \_\_\_\_\_
  - l. Timber Top Farm (Jacob Singer) – \_\_\_\_\_

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**NEXT MEETING:** The next scheduled meeting of the Trails Committee is October 15, 2015 at 12 noon.

**ADJOURNMENT / CONTINUANCE:** At approximately 1:00 p.m., the Committee unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting.

Amanda "Mandie" Cantlin  
Trails Committee Secretary

**TRAILS COMMITTEE PRIORITIES (2016):**

1. Hog's Hollow Trail
2. Paradise Valley Nature Area (trail improvements, washout, & Valley Creek fish habitat improvement)
3. Mt. Bradford Improvements (meadow restoration, parking area, paved trail)
4. Brandywine Trail Phase 1 drainage improvements
5. Brandywine Trail Phase 5
6. Plum Run Corridor

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
- Guthrie trail easement
- Ravine to Brandywine Road
- Sunset Hollow Road
- Sunset Hollow / Happy Creek / Harmony Hill