

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

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

John Spangler, Chair
Harry Hatzipavlidis, Vice Chair
Tony Blanco
Michael Colley
Sheila Fleming
Joseph Hamel
Bob Hawkes
Maria Kenny
Betsey Mehl
Josie Parman
Andy Schaum
Jim Wakefield

Committee members absent:

Fred Rothman
Jacob Singer

Staff/Professionals present:

Mandie Cantlin, Trails Committee Liaison and Assistant Township Manager

Staff/Professionals absent:

Mark Lucas, P.E., Township Engineer

Others in attendance:

Marianne Bausinger, Parks & Recreation Board Chair
Dave Redmond
Tenley Adams

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 October 15, 2015, as presented. Mr. Spangler seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Brandywine Trail –
 - a. Rules / regulations – Mr. Spangler, Mr. Wakefield, and Ms. Cantlin will be meeting with West Bradford staff on November 24 to discuss joint regulations to govern the use of the paved trail. The TC is supportive of rollerblade use although Mr. Hatzipavlidis inquired whether West Bradford might have statistics on rollerblade safety (complaints, injuries, etc.). Other topics that should be discussed include skateboards and winter maintenance.
 - b. Rt. 322 Bridge Replacement – A meeting was held last week to discuss the replacement of the Rt. 322 bridge and its impact on the Brandywine Trail. Parties in attendance included PennDOT, Township representatives, Chester County staff, and representatives from Senator Dinniman's and Representative Ross' offices. If the Township is able to develop designs for a trail underpass and parking lot, PennDOT

may be able to incorporate aspects of the work into the project. Ms. Cantlin will be meeting with McCormick Taylor tomorrow.

2. Chapel Trail – During the Supervisors meeting on November 3, the Board agreed to share the cost of the soils analysis (\$2,500) with Paradise Farm Camps. PennTrails and Hanover Engineering Associates performed the analysis work on November 17. Mr. Schaum was in attendance. The report is pending.
3. Naturalist Guided Walks – The fall Naturalist Guided Walk with Dr. Tim Lutz took place on November 8. The event reached its maximum capacity and feedback was very positive. Mr. Hawkes stressed that future guide candidates be carefully vetted to ensure the high standard set by Dr. Lutz is maintained. Mr. Hawkes also feels that the 20 person limit is appropriate given the intimate setting. The Township netted \$220 from the event. Dr. Lutz declined an honorarium, but the group agreed to send a gift certificate as a gesture of gratitude. Kendra McMillan is slated to lead the spring walk and it is likely that the walk will highlight the Plum Run region. Ms. Fleming and others will work to identify a date, time, and location for the spring walk as soon as possible. Another possibility for a future walk is the Stroud Preserve region; a representative from the Stroud Water Research Center (e.g. Bernard Sweeney) would be an ideal leader.
4. 2015 Trail Blazer Run – The race group will meet after this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. SD 632 Tigie Conditional Use – Toll Brothers submitted a conditional use application to utilize the open space development option for the Tigie property. The plan is based on the 91-unit Sketch Plan that was submitted earlier this year. The property is in the R-2, R-3, and R-4 zoning districts and is surrounded by residential and institutional uses. There are two historic resources on the tract – HR 137 and HR 355. The applicant is proposing public water and sewer. The tract is identified on the Official Map as “land proposed for future conservation easement.” The Official Map also depicts proposed trails along Tigie Road and a cul-de-sac immediately east of the Tigie tract. The TC unanimously agreed to recommend that:
 - a. The applicant provide a public trail along the northern boundary of the main parcel to connect the public trail along Tigie Road to the northern portion of the Golden Ram trail located on West Chester University property.
 - b. The applicant relocate a portion of the trail on Tigie Road to traverse between the proposed houses on the southern parcel and the Plum Run. The trail should intersect Tigie Road along the eastern and western boundary lines.
 - c. The applicant work to eliminate or reduce the number of houses on the southern side of Tigie Road.
 - d. The public trail cross Plum Run and connect to the Township-owned Strode’s Barn property.
 - e. The applicant construct the trail before houses are sold.
2. SD 633 West Chester Sports Plex – The applicant, Tim Horan, is proposing to improve the property as a recreational multi-purpose sports complex. The property is in the R-3 district and is surrounded by residential uses. The Township’s Mt. Bradford Preserve is located across the street. The property is identified on the Official Map as “Future Park Land” and a proposed trail is envisioned along the southern property line (adjacent to Miner Street). The TC unanimously agreed to recommend that the applicant provide a public trail along Miner Street and along the eastern boundary to allow for a future connection to Windon.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

1. West Valley Creek – Mr. Schaum and Mr. Colley shared information about West Valley Creek. The flow has seen wide fluctuations in the last month and the color is occasionally opaque and green. Sinkholes have also been found in the Creek. Representatives from Fish and Boat, West Chester Fish and Game, and Hanson have been investigating the conditions and possible causes. Aqua likely will be contacted in the future.
2. Brandywine Creek Greenway and Plum Run Green Corridor – No update.
3. Chester Valley Trail Extension – The last steering committee meeting took place on October 22. The Chester County Planning Commission reviewed the outcome of the first public meeting that took place on October 8. About 40 people attended the meeting at West Whiteland. The CCPC developed a survey to gather public input

on the general level of support for extending the trail and potential trail extension usage levels. This public input will help to inform the study recommendations. The survey consists of 10 questions and should take no more than 5 minutes to complete. The survey is available at <http://www.landscapes2.org/transportation/cvte.cfm>. The next meeting is December 17.

4. Comprehensive Plan – The Comprehensive Task Force met on November 4. They discussed West Chester Borough cooperation, project prioritization, and vision and mission statements. In lieu of a December meeting, TCA will be distributing draft materials for review/comment. The next meeting is scheduled for January 6.
5. Member's Trail Inspections –
 - a. Blue Rock Trail (Fred Rothman) – _____
 - b. Brandywine Trail (Andy Schaum) – The Township will be working to address drainage issues in 2016.
 - c. Copeland / East Bradford Park Trail (Harry Hatzipavlides) – _____
 - 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 Hatzipavlides) – _____
 - i. Paradise Valley Nature Area (Michael Colley; Bob Hawkes; Andy Schaum) – _____
 - 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 December 17, 2015 at 12 noon.

ADJOURNMENT / CONTINUANCE: At approximately 1:30 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, Chapel Trail, & 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 Scennelltown Road (Mt. Bradford to Scennelltown 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