

**WARREN COUNTY  
BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSIONERS**

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue, PO Box 179  
Oxford, NJ 07863

**January 9, 2018  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Michael Helbing opened the meeting at 5:02 p.m., read the Open Public Meeting Notice, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** John Halmi, David Detrick, Raymond Tobaygo, Charles Fineran, William Hann  
Michael Helbing

**Members Absent:** Matthew Davis

**Guests:** Karen Lance, Bob Halberstadt, James Wattling (arrived at 5:45 pm)

**Staff:** Christina Roberts

**NOMINATIONS:**

Board Chairperson - Charles Fineran nominated Michael Helbing as Chairperson, seconded by John Halmi. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chairperson - Dave Detrick nominated Matthew Davis as Vice Chairperson, seconded by Raymond Tobaygo. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Secretary - Bill Hann nominated David Detrick as Board Secretary, seconded by Charles Fineran. Motion carried unanimously.

**MINUTES:** The December 12, 2017 minutes were reviewed. Mr. Hann motioned, seconded by Mr. Fineran to approve the minutes, as presented. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ice Skating/Ice Fishing at White Lake - Bob Halberstadt from Blairstown News attended the meeting to support ice skating and ice fishing on White Lake. Both have been done over the years, but since there weren't any rules in place regarding the activities, the Board should have an official stance, along with specific parameters. Mr. Detrick suggested the Board endorse ice skating and ice fishing, but also outline their concerns for Mr. Tierney and Ridge & Valley Conservancy to address. The concerns are as follows: having a procedure/standards for testing the thickness of ice and making sure it is closely monitored, RVC will use the green flag/red flag system to ensure it is safe to skate or fish on since it is easily recognizable, rules will be clearly posted (seasonally), separate areas for ice skating versus ice fishing, and previous holes used for ice fishing should be marked to avoid areas on thin ice being walked on/tripped over. Rules regarding shacks or sheds, fires, and vehicles on the ice will also be determined. The Board also suggests that this gets expedited quickly so people can participate in these activities this season. Mr. Hann motioned, seconded by Mr. Fineran to approve ice skating and ice fishing on White Lake in cooperation with Ridge & Valley Conservancy, as long as all concerns that were outlined above are addressed. Motion carried.

Karen Lance suggested that RVC contact NJ Fish & Wildlife for their help in determining safe fishing and skating locations on the lake and standard procedures.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEES

### Morris Canal Committee

- Details of the report from the investigation at Plane 9 have been received and the recommendations are reasonable. Mr. Dech and Mr. Tierney authorized the hiring of the consultant to manage the project to get safety and conservation issues resolved and the regrading at the bottom on the inclined plane completed.

### Trails

- Warren Highlands Trail Meeting - January 19<sup>th</sup> at Pequest Fish Hatchery at 9 am. All sections are gone over on an overhead projector and any issues or concerns are addressed.
- At the state, Jenny Felton is now the new acting Regional Superintendent.
- Farmland Leases - When farmland leases are up for renewal, the Board recommends that all trail easements are written into the leases so farmers will keep the trail clear. Mr. Hann suggested using the same language that is in the Hamlen Farm lease for trail easements.

**NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2018.

**ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further business, Mr. Tobaygo motioned, seconded by Mr. Fineran to adjourn the meeting at 5:52 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Christina Roberts  
Administrative Clerk