

**WARREN COUNTY  
BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSIONERS**

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

**May 12, 2015  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Helbing opened the meeting at 5:08 p.m., read the Open Public Meeting Notice, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** William Hann, Jr., Matthew Davis, John Halmi, Raymond Tobaygo, Charles Fineran, David Detrick

**Members Absent:** Michael Helbing

**Guests:** Elizabeth Roy, Andrew Ward

**Staff:** Corey Tierney, Christina Roberts

**MINUTES:** The April 14, 2015 minutes were reviewed. Mr. Detrick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tobaygo to approve the minutes as presented, with Mr. Hann abstaining. Motion carried.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

Morris Canal Committee

The Morris Canal Bus Trip scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup> was canceled because there weren't enough seats filled. They plan to reschedule the bus trip later this summer.

The April Morris Canal meeting was canceled.

All spring maintenance work has been completed at Bread Lock Park.

A maintenance meeting was held at Plane 9 to discuss what maintenance needs to be done at the various county sites over the spring and summer.

Trails

Mr. Hann suggested that Mr. Davis put together a map of all of the trails to be added to the Open Space Plan and itemize each trails, with the importance of the trails, both historically and recreationally, along with a description. Mr. Davis will have the map and descriptions available for the next Board meeting for their review. If approved, it will then be sent to the Planning Department for inclusion in the Open Space Plan Update.

Washington Township - Mr. Tierney said that all they need is for the town to approve the kiosk and trail.

Mr. Hann suggested that MetroTrails look into obtaining 501c3 designation as a non-profit organization to possibly apply for Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust Funds. Mr. Tierney explained that it sounds good in theory, but the process is very complicated and time-consuming. He also reviewed the requirements to apply for MCCT grant funds.

## Public Awareness

June is National Great Outdoors Month - The Department will prepare a proclamation and press release.

Trails Day, June 6<sup>th</sup> - Mr. Davis has a hike at planned at Florence Kuipers to Buck Hill and back.

Lopatcong Environmental Commission has requested that someone from the Department or the Board attend a hike on June 6<sup>th</sup> at Marble Hill to discuss Warren County Land Preservation, the trail, and how it came to be reopened. They meet at Lopatcong Park at 9 a.m. Any Board member that is available that day should contact the Department and we will put them in contact with the group.

Preservation Day - Flyers and brochures were handed out for Board members to distribute for the May 31<sup>st</sup> event. A press release on the event will be done next week.

It was inquired if people who are on Probation, required to do community service, could be used for some of the trail maintenance. Mr. Tierney will contact the Sheriff's Office and see if it is a possibility.

Mr. Tierney contacted a local website designer to inquire about a website for the Department. He is expecting a proposal by the end of the week. Once a more user-friendly website is established, Mr. Fineran volunteered to contact the municipalities to see if they would post a link to the Department's website so the community would have easier access to all of the County Park information, events, trails, park rules, permit applications, etc. The Board expressed broad support for creating an independent website where residents and visitors could easily obtain information.

Brochures for the County Parks are in the process of being updated. Once they are completed, the Department intends to get them professionally printed so they can be distributed to their specific locations. Rack cards will also be created to cross-promote all of the other County Parks. Mr. Detrick will provide the Department with a list of all of the kiosks and their locations and Board members can volunteer to help keep the various locations stocked with brochures and rack cards.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Acquisition Updates**

M&M Mars - Mr. Davis has been unable to reach the man he initially spoke to, but will keep trying.

O'Dowd - Mr. Tierney met with the landowners, their attorney, and consultants for Greenwich Township. The O'Dowds requested a 90 day extension, which is subject to CADB approval.

White/Woo Property - A meeting was held with the landowners and Wild Ridge Plants to discuss the vegetative buffer plan; the proposal came in lower than expected.

North Central Realco - Extended to August. If solar project proceeds, the easement will be donated. If the project does not move forward, the landowner has the purchase offer from the Department.

Handlos - Closing is scheduled for this Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Independence Land Holdings - Encroachments with neighbors (sheds on property lines) need to be resolved before proceeding.

Terhune Property Acquisition - Mr. Terhune's bank is unwilling to subordinate or give a partial release without a metes and bounds survey. Mr. Tierney recommended the Board either authorize a survey be done or amend the standard contract, so Mr. Terhune can back out, if necessary. Mr. Hann made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fineran to authorize a survey be done. Motion carried.

## **WORKING GROUPS**

Park Rules - Mr. Davis and Mr. Helbing have not been able to review the Park Rules and Bylaws yet, but plan to soon. They will then submit a summarized draft of the changes and forward them to Mr. Tierney and the full Board for approval.

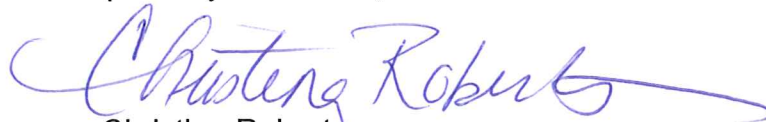
## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Board reviewed a letter from the New Jersey Jumbo Flyers, a club of model airplane hobbyists. They are looking to find a new field to fly their model airplanes and need approximately two acres for their runway. It was agreed that more information/clarification is needed on some of the concerns raised by Mr. Tierney and the Board before making any recommendations.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on June 9, 2015.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, Mr. Hann made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fineran to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Christina Roberts  
Administrative Clerk