

**WARREN COUNTY  
BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSIONERS**

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

**July 10, 2018  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Michael Helbing opened the meeting at 5:11 p.m., read the Open Public Meeting Notice, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**Guests:** Elizabeth Roy

**Staff:** Corey Tierney, Christina Roberts

**MINUTES:** The June 12, 2018 minutes were reviewed. Mr. Davis motioned, seconded by Mr. Halmi to approve the minutes, as presented with Mr. Davis and Mr. Hann abstaining. Motion carried.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

Morris Canal Committee

- Progress is being made on the Bilby Road bridge.
- July 15<sup>th</sup> is the 100-Year commemorative event for Jim Lee, Sr. at Plane 9.
- Volunteer work day this Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 9 am at Plane 6/Port Colden.
- Mr. Detrick requested that anyone having picnics at Bread Lock Park be required to remove their trash from the site, as there is no regular garbage pick-up.

Trails

- Oxford Mountain - Mr. Helbing said that there is an old woods road that would make a great trail if it is within our property lines. Mr. Tierney will have the surveyor mark the property boundaries before Mr. Helbing can start marking some trails.
- White Lake - Mr. Tierney noted that there is a new orange trail at White Lake, near the Wiseman House. Mr. Tierney requested a new trail map from RVC.
- A beaver dammed the area of the lake near the boat launch, which caused the area to flood.
- Oxford Mountain Foreclosure Properties - Mr. Tierney has not heard any updates and will follow up with Oxford Township regarding some of the foreclosure sites.
- Marble Hill - Mr. Tierney inquired about the maintenance at Marble Hill. Mr. Helbing said most of it is clear, except the yellow trail. There are also several large fallen trees that need to be removed. The trail off River Road needs to be delineated better.
- SCA Intern - The Board asked Mr. Tierney to look into hiring additional SCA Interns to assist with park maintenance duties. Mr. Tierney will be meeting with Mr. Muckle and Mr. Canace to discuss options. The labor aspect would be seasonal, but the coordinator aspect would be year-round.
- Open Space Plan - Mr. Hann noted that the Open Space Plan that was recently approved includes an amendment suggested by Freeholder Smith to support the hiring of additional staff only if demands from the parks exceed the ability of existing staff. The Board believes that the county's staff is already at this point.

- Stewarts Hunt - Mr. Helbing asked when the Stewarts Hunt subject can be approached. Mr. Detrick suggested that a maintenance plan be squared away for existing properties before the Board can support the opening of another section.

### **White lake Dock Sign**

The dock has been ordered and should be in late July/early August and will need to be assembled and installed. Mr. Canace requested the Board's support of a sign stating that no chairs, aside from wheelchairs be permitted on the dock. A bench will be ordered and bolted to the dock for people to use. It is intended that the dock only be used for fishing and kayaking. Mr. Davis suggested that no formal action be taken and to see how it goes after installation. Mr. Fineran motioned, seconded by Mr. Tobaygo to not take any formal action and wait to see if a sign is necessary. Motion carried.

### **Scenic Byway Grant**

Mr. Tierney recently found out about a grant that is available to Warren County and can be used for open space acquisition. The Byway Committee would prefer that it be spent on a property along the Muscontcong River to provide river access, but this isn't a requirement of the grant. There are no prospective properties currently in that region, but if a longer time period is available, one with connections to existing properties could be sought out. If funds need to be spent within a short period of time, he would suggest using them on the Singley property since it is already in the works. Mr. Tierney will find out how quickly the funds need to be utilized, because that would determine which project to use the funding for.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Administrator's Report**

- Barcellona/Barish - There is an issue with ownership of the property and it appears that it is not actually owned by the applicant.
- Cacciapaglia - CMV (\$220,500) was received in December 2016 and landowner initially rejected the County's offer. Other potential buyers have apparently fallen through, so the landowner verbally agreed to now sell the property to the county. Mr. Tierney is checking with both The Nature Conservancy and New Jersey Conservation Foundation for potential partnerships on the acquisition of the 20 acres. Mr. Fineran motioned, seconded by Mr. Hann to move forward with the acquisition (preferably with partnership funds). Motion carried.
- Ferrara - Title research came back. The applicant does not own the canal bed or basin. Mr. Hann motioned, seconded by Mr. Fineran to pass on the acquisition of the Ferrara property, unless the landowner comes back with a lower offer for the Board to consider. Motion carried.
- Carfaro - The State acquisition of the Carfaro property, which is adjacent to the Rockport Game Farm has stalled due to county and municipal easement issues. Mr. Fink from Green Acres asked if the County would still be interested in the property if they don't proceed. Mr. Detrick said he would speak to the Deputy Mayor of the municipality to try to get the municipal easement issues rectified so it can move forward with the State acquisition.

**NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2018.

**ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further business, Mr. Davis motioned, seconded by Mr. Fineran to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Christina Roberts  
Administrative Clerk