

**WARREN COUNTY
BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSIONERS**

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

**August 11, 2015
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Helbing opened the meeting at 5:12 p.m., read the Open Public Meeting Notice, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: None

Staff: Corey Tierney, Christina Roberts

MINUTES: The July 14, 2015 minutes were reviewed. Charlie Fineran made a motion, seconded by Bill Hann to approve the minutes as presented; Raymond Tobaygo abstained. Motion carried.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Morris Canal Committee

- The Morris Canal Committee meeting will be held at 7:30 tonight.
- The MCC discussed various options for the potential NJTPA funding and made their recommendations. They felt that the Route 22 tunnel and bridge or anything on the Master Plan at Plane 9 would be the highest priority.
- The next Morris Canal bus tour is scheduled for October 3rd.
- The Plane 9 turbine chamber restoration project is underway. They are in the middle of completing studies to determine the best way to preserve the turbine chamber.
- Mr. Detrick noted that it would be helpful to have rack cards at Bread Lock Park with directions to Port Warren/Plane 9 and vice versa that can be handed out.

Trails

Mike Helbing submitted maps and full descriptions of the main route or Hoff-Vannatta spur of the Warren Highlands Trail to the State for Land Management review. Once approved, they will be able to develop the trail. The only thing the entire tract needs is marking posts. He discussed both options that he is proposing; the Hoff-Vannatta spur would have less road-walking. It was suggested to get the main route approved and then changes or spurs can be added in the future.

Geiger Tract - Mr. Helbing suggested that we move the trail around the field to the other side. It is on county-owned property and since it would follow the tree line, it would require less mowing and maintenance. Mr. Tierney is not opposed to moving the trail, but a walk through will be done and the farmer would be notified before moving the trail.

Matt Davis emailed Mr. Tierney his written interpretation of the trail plan to be included in the Open Space Plan and also brought a large printed map, illustrating the trails.

Ridge & Valley Trail - A meeting regarding the trail will be held at White Lake on September 1st with Bob Canace. There was discussion regarding the trail and markings.

Public Awareness

The Florence Kuipers Rockport Wildlife Management Area Trail may be completed in time for a fall grand opening event. The trail will be blazed in red.

OLD BUSINESS

Acquisition Updates

Ferrara - The property in Port Murray, along the canal is being appraised. The house on the property is being excepted out.

M&M Mars - Matt Davis will try to reach out to them again.

Pool - Mr. Tierney is looking into other possible options to acquire the property.

Outreach letters will be sent to target properties in early 2016 after the Open Space Plan is completed.

Maffenbeier - There are four lots for sale near White Lake. Two of the lots have offers, but Mr. Tierney would like to get all four appraised, in case any deals fall through. Existing buildings on the property are in disrepair and would be demolished, if acquired. Charlie Fineran made a motion, seconded by Matt Davis to have the four properties appraised. Motion carried.

Logothetis - Mr. Tierney received a phone call from Mr. Logothetis; he is interested in selling two lots, even though the Department is only interested in one of them. Mr. Tierney suggested that both lots be appraised and then an offer will just be made on the northern property. Charlie Fineran made a motion, seconded by Raymond Tobaygo to have both properties appraised. Motion carried.

Maintenance - The NJ Youth Corps will blaze the loop at Florence Kuipers and the perimeter trails around the fields at Port Warren.

ERF Contractors will be installing a gate in front of the tunnel bridge at Florence Kuipers with a combination lock to keep vehicles from driving back there.


Shippen Manor is considered part of the Department's historic building inventory and is in need of a new roof, which will be paid for with Open Space funds. The slate roof will be replaced with a synthetic slate material that is SHPO approved.

Working Group Updates - The Park Rules were sent out with the agenda for final Board review and approval. Any exceptions to rules can be made of a park/location-specific basis. Matt Davis made a motion, seconded by Bill Hann to approve the proposed Park Rules and Regulations. Motion carried. They will now be forwarded to the Freeholders for their approval.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on September 8, 2015.

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Christina Roberts
Administrative Clerk