

**WARREN COUNTY
BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSIONERS**

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

**August 13, 2019
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER: Michael Helbing opened the meeting at 5:13 p.m., read the Open Public Meeting Notice, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

Staff: Corey Tierney, Christina Roberts, Elizabeth Roy

MINUTES: The July 9, 2019 minutes were reviewed. Mr. Hann motioned, seconded by Mr. Halmi to approve the minutes, as presented. Motion carried.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Morris Canal Committee

Port Colden - Lots done; the group had four pieces of Parks Foundation equipment onsite. Ruts were filled in with gravel, but will likely be a continuous problem due to erosion.

OK4WD - Mr. Oostdyk's crew cleared the large debris pile at Bread Lock.

Warren Heritage Scenic Byway - Mr. Davis made interpretive signs for several Warren Heritage Scenic Byway locations. A Cornish piano and an Alleger organ were donated to Bread Lock Park. Mr. Fineran will be photographing all of mills along the Scenic Byway and its spurs for the website. The local historians on the Scenic Byway History Committee will be developing the text/history of the mills. Lopatcong and Phillipsburg have not yet signed on for inclusion in the Scenic Byway.

Mr. Tierney noted that the County History Partnership Program (CHPP) grant for the Warren Heritage Scenic Byway website will be expiring in December and agreement documents still have not be received.

Trails

Girl Scout Project - Mackenzie Patti, the Girl Scout that attended a BORC meeting earlier in the year will be doing her project, researching stone farm ruins on state property in Harmony Township.

Warren Highlands Trail - In September/October, SCA crew doing some trail work on State Park land.

Marble Hill - Mr. Hann and Mr. Kingfield did some more clearing. Mr. Hann called in their volunteer hours to Land Preservation for tracking.

Kiosks/Brochures - Once maps are updated and finalized, more permanent panels will be ordered for the kiosks. Brochures are also being updated.

North Main Street, Stewartsville - Mr. Detrick noted that the sight distance leaving this location is terrible. Mr. Tierney said the site was not intended to be used for parking and is too close to Merrill Creek to construct a parking area. Draft maps/panels for kiosks can be printed for review and critique at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Bilby Road Bridge Project - An estimate of \$19,800 for the helical pilings was distributed; there is no cheaper alternative. There is a State trails grant for the project in the amount of \$20,000. The estimated cost of the bridge is \$30,000 or \$50,000+. The original company that the bridge was being ordered from was bought out by a larger firm and has been challenging to work with. The Board had a lengthy discussion regarding the bridge and its expenses. Other, more practical and economical options may be explored, but an engineer will need to sign off on it.

White Lake Stewardship Manager/Cabin Policy - Ridge & Valley Conservancy hired a new land steward that will be starting soon. He is married and would like for his wife to stay with him in the Wiseman cabin for the duration of his employment. The Board discussed the current policy and potential issues. Mr. Hann motioned, seconded by Mr. Tobaygo that only RVC employees or SCA interns be permitted to stay in the cabin. Motion carried.

White Lake Parking Expansion - Due to increased use during the warmer months, RVC inquired about expanding the main White Lake parking area to include a small area on the left side of the driveway for compact cars. Mr. Detrick motioned, seconded by Mr. Davis to table the proposed parking area expansion and for Mr. Tierney to seek an agreement with Fish & Wildlife for overflow parking at the Vass House, along with safe crossing being established. Motion carried. If an agreement can't be reached, then the expansion of the parking area can be revisited - possibly mirroring the existing lot on the opposite side.

Administrator's Report

HMUA - Offer made.

Zander - Offer made.

Cacciapaglia - Verbal agreement; revised contract sent to landowner's attorney for review.

Stryker's Road Crossing Under Route 22 - Mr. Detrick inquired about the Stryker's Road crossing. Mr. Tierney reached out to Cole Baldino from Trout Unlimited and stressed the importance of the crossing under Route 22. He was told they would have more flexibility at the time of construction. Mr. Tierney told Mr. Baldino that county would be willing to contribute additional funds to get the project done.

Hentenaar & Santini (Lock Street) - Mr. Hann requested copies of the project maps be emailed to him.

Maintenance

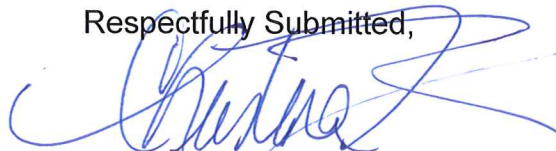
Shippen Manor - Seeking volunteers.

Bicentennial Cultural and Heritage Advisory Board - The Freeholders are seeking two to four additional members for the newly established board. The Board will help plan the County's bicentennial event, oversee museum operations, manage museum collections, administer CHPP grant, and Arts Council grants.

NEXT MEETING - The next meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, Mr. Fineran motioned, seconded by Mr. Hann to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Christina Roberts
Administrative Clerk