

Minutes of the Meeting of October 8, 2013

Warren County Board of Recreation Commissioners

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue
Oxford, New Jersey 07863

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

Members Absent: John Halmi

Staff: Corey Tierney and Sue Beall

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Warren County Board of Recreation Commissioners was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Helbing . This meeting was held at the office of the Department of Land Preservation, 500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue, Oxford, New Jersey.

The Introductory Statement and roll call were read into the record.

The Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the meeting of August 13, 2013, were approved on a motion by Mr. Detrick, second by Mr. Tobaygo. Mr. Fineran and Mr. Hann abstained.

The minutes of the meeting of September 10, 2013, were approved with corrections on a motion by Mr. Fineran, second by Mr. Hann. Mr. Davis, Mr. Detrick and Mr. Tobaygo abstained.

Correction: Page 2, paragraph 2, Madison should be Mattison Lane in Allamuchy Township.

Page 2, paragraph 2, should read: "Chairman Helbing "proposed" an unofficial trail on Mattison Lane . . .

CORRESPONDENCE:

None this evening.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

♦ Morris Canal Committee – October 5, was the Fall Bus Tour and they had a good crowd. Tomorrow, October 9, there will be a site visit in Hackettstown. Liz Roy has been coordinating these site visits and they have accomplished a great deal – it is interesting to get to visit the various areas and discuss what is happening. At Bread Lock Park the pavilion is complete over the canal boat model. The Youth Corps has done a great job in weed whacking this year. The towpath from Plane 9 all the way to Strykers Road has been cleared and mowed. Next some temporary measures will be taken to cross over wet areas and gaps in the towpath. Don Brinker has done an extraordinary job of cleaning and clearing at Plane 9. After the next open house at the Plane, they will be ready to have the dirt smoothed out on top of the plane and moved to areas where fill is needed. Work on the tailrace is ready to begin. RFP's, once approved by the NJ Historic Trust, will be sent out. The Committee is also readying to begin stabilization of the turbine pit. Mr. Helbing pointed out that there is a tremendous amount of ATV activity in the vicinity of Florence Kuipers Park, but not extending as far as Cuff's. Liz Roy is working on securing additional blazes, marked yellow, with Warren County on them.

♦ Trails – Mr. Helbing announced that he has done no recent clearing on any trails. He inquired as to the status of Geiger and was advised that there is no new activity; the Farmers' Fair Association is discussing their options. Mr. Fineran and Mr. Helbing met with the Allamuchy Town Council and the Panther Valley Owners Association regarding the blazing of a trail system through Panther Valley property and all are amenable. Mr. Fineran has requested a sketch of a map because the trail blazes are on slate and not clearly visible. Mr. Hann questioned why a project similar to the Morris Canal Greenway mapping and identification of properties already purchased and those desirable to completing the Greenway, including the names of owners, mileage, etc. was not available for the Warren Trail. The Committee responded that this had been accomplished by the Planning Department with aerial mapping. Mr. Hann requested a copy of such a document. He further talked about how plans had been discussed to involve the New York/New Jersey Trail Conference to assist in negotiating with NJ American Water, Merrill Creek and Washington Township toward the continuation of the Warren Trail. Mr. Helbing responded that NY/NJ was already spread too thin and had too few volunteers in this area. Mr. Helbing also mentioned that while hiking he had met with Mr. Domin who is very excited about the trail being near his property and he is keeping the area mowed and tidy.

PUBLIC AWARENESS: Mr. Helbing again mentioned Mark Moran of Weird New Jersey and the fact that Mr. Moran had joined in a recent hike. Mr. Helbing expanded on the fact that Mr. Moran will promote and write about the various County sites he witnessed such as Plane 9 West, Harmony Presbyterian Church and Cemetery, the Strykers Road project, Marble Hill and Union Station to name a few.

OLD BUSINESS:

♦ Acquisition and Status of Projects – Route 57 Partners is still under contract, however there are survey issues. Frieze is scheduled to close soon. The Mann property easement contract is currently being written. We are still waiting for a CMV on Independence Land Holdings from Green Acres. Mr. Lavery is pursuing Pool which will likely be a short sale. An offer has been

made on Read, however we have not had a response. The first offer to Kanach/Wolf was rejected, and a second offer will be made. We are waiting for Green Acres to advise on the Velencei property in Oxford. Handlos is on the Freeholder agenda for this week, however the Freeholders have some concerns regarding future sub division.

Mr. Tierney met with Mr. Muckle of the NJ Youth Corp and their potential work at Marble Hill. Mr. Muckle advised that they would keep Marble Hill clear as well as the parking area on Hoffman Road near the Port Murray Preserve. The Youth Corp will clear from Hoffman to Terracotta Road. The Highlands Project has plans to clear from Harts Lane to the Meadows at Mansfield property when the foliage is off. There was then a discussion of various trail possibilities.

Mr. Hann inquired if there was anything happening with Jeneco. Not at present. Mr. Detrick inquired if there was anything new on the Bilby Road bridge. No.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nothing this evening.

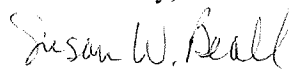
PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Fineran made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hann. Chairman Helbing adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by,



Susan W. Beall