

**WARREN COUNTY
BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSIONERS**

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

**November 13, 2018
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER: Dave Detrick opened the meeting at 5:15 p.m., read the Open Public Meeting Notice, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: David Detrick, Charles Fineran, Raymond Tobaygo, John Halmi

Staff: Corey Tierney, Christina Roberts

MINUTES: The October 9, 2018 minutes were reviewed. Mr. Fineran motioned, seconded by Mr. Halmi to approve the minutes, as presented. Motion carried.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Morris Canal Committee

- Dave Dech had a meeting this past week in Trenton regarding the Bilby Road trail, which is now under Land Management Review.
- The county received a response to last year's NJTPA grant application and should be getting \$1.5 million for various Morris Canal Greenway trail improvement projects. The Bilby Road trail was included in the grant. An engineer may need to be hired for the trails with slopes to address the water runoff issue. There has been a lot of erosion on various trails - Mr. Tierney will see if the grant can be used to address those issues. Mr. Tierney will also consult with Peter Dolan from NY/NJ Trail Conference.
- Last month, the Parks Foundation volunteer group painted all the fences at Stryker's Road and down by the weir.
- Shop work will continue through the winter.
- Kiosks with panels developed by the Canal Committee, containing information pertaining to each site, were installed at Meadowbreeze Park, Rockport, and Port Murray Store, along with an additional kiosk, five benches, and one picnic table at Bread Lock Park. Since three kiosks were not installed on county property, Mr. Tierney requested the Board's approval for the Department to pay for those kiosks. Mr. Fineran motioned to approve kiosks installed on properties that pertain to the Warren Highlands Trail and Morris Canal Greenway, as long as kiosks are installed in accordance with the property owner's guidelines/ordinances; the motion was seconded by Mr. Halmi, with Mr. Detrick abstaining. Motion carried. A simple agreement will be developed for property owners to sign.
- Green Township (Sussex County) Connector Trail - A landowner would not let them use part of the rail trail, so the township received permission to route the trail though the cemetery. Mr. Fineran suggested installing a kiosk at the entrance of the cemetery, purchased from the Parks Foundation by the township.

Trails

- There was a Warren Highlands Trail meeting held in October. Mr. Helbing will be asked to provide an update at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Administrator's Report

- Zander - Following up with landowner.
- Cacciapaglia - Under contract.

- Singley - Working out details regarding the driveway.
- Albulescu - Waiting on environmental report.
- Logothetis - Waiting for information from the landowner.
- Barbieri - Ready to sign the contract.
- Mohican Farm Associates - Proposal prepared by Ridge & Valley Conservancy and Mr. Tierney was provided. William Penn funding came through since the report. The landowners have not accepted the amount offered yet. The County's cost with Green Acres funding would be approximately 31.5% and only 7.5% of open space trust funds. Mr. Tierney said the feedback from freeholders has generally been supportive, but they have some concerns which need to be addressed before putting it on their agenda.

Maintenance

Erosion - The heavy rains have caused severe erosion and washout at the O'Dowd trail, Plane 9, and Marble Hill. Lopatcong Creek dammed up the bridge and washed out part of the driveway at Plane 9. Repairs will need to be made and Mr. Tierney suggested looking into design alternatives for those portions of trails which are subject to recurring erosion.

White Lake

White Lake Dock - The dock was ordered from a second company and is being manufactured.

Milfoil Treatments - The series of treatments have been completed at White Lake.

White Lake Barn - The driver that crashed his car into the White Lake Barn is uninsured, so the County will make repairs and then pursue a claim.

Shippen Manor - Shippen Manor has been added to the Administrator's Report. The volunteers that provide the weekend tours will continue doing so. Tours will be provided on the first and second Sundays in December and the manor will be decorated for Christmas as it was in the past. The site includes Oxford Furnace and will now be included as one of the Department's historical parks.

Mr. Tierney is working with Michael Margulies from Eclectic Architecture and Alex Lazorisak from the Department of Public Works to develop a capital improvement plan for Shippen Manor and the Bread Lock Park Barn. The driveway of Shippen Manor also has erosion issues that will need to be addressed.

The Township of Hardwick and the Hardwick Historical Society have expressed interest in having the state transfer the Vass House, located across from White Lake, into County ownership. The Land Preservation Department is waiting to receive more information about this proposal.

This Saturday, November 17th from 10 am to 12 pm at the Southwestern Branch of the Warren County Library, Michael Margulies will lead a grant workshop on the County History Partnership Program which is a cooperative program between Warren County and the New Jersey Historical Commission. Local historic groups are encouraged to attend. The County can also apply for a grant for historic operating funds and is currently the only county in New Jersey that has not applied.

NEXT MEETING - The next meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, Mr. Fineran motioned, seconded by Mr. Tobaygo to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Christina Roberts
Administrative Clerk