

August 27, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

7:00pm - DRIVE conference room, 114 Woodbine Ln, Suite 103, Danville, PA 17821

MEETING ATTENDEES:

MARC BOARD MEMBERS

Tyler Dombroski, Joe Ward, Commissioner Dan Hartman, Bill Lavage, Dr. Kendra Boell, Heather Good, Chris Johns, Dr. Victor Marks, Dr. Dan Rogers

MARC STAFF

Bob Stoudt

PUBLIC

Wayne Kashner, Karen Blackledge

Call to Order

- Treasurer Bill Lavage (in place of Chairman Mike Mills and Vice-Chairman Frank Dombroski, who were both absent) called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Officer Reports

- **Chairman's Report**
 - Treasurer Bill Lavage noted that there was no July meeting and that our next meeting would be Monday, September 24.
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - Treasurer Lavage reviewed the reports from Susan Shultz Accounting and there were no new concerns noted.
 - Motion to approve Treasurer's report: Dr. Marks; Second: Tyler Dombroski; Motion passed unanimously.
- **Secretary's Report**
 - Secretary Johns asked if there were any questions about the past June minutes. There was not a July meeting.
 - Motion: Dr. Boell; Second: Tyler Dombroski; Motion passed unanimously.

Partner Reports

- **Washingtonville Borough**
 - Tyler stated there would be new signage posted at the entrance to Delong Park. Otherwise, nothing new to update.
- **Danville Borough**
 - Nothing new to report.
- **Riverside Borough**
 - Nothing new to report.
- **Montour County**
 - Stoudt noted the recent receipt of \$17,500 in Act 13 funding from Montour County, bringing the County's total annual contribution of Act 13 funds to \$25,000 as pledged.
- **Danville Area School District**
 - Nothing new to report.

Public Comment

- None

Assistant Director's report

- Report provided in meeting agenda packet.

Maintenance Technician's report

- Report provided in meeting agenda packet.

Director's Report

- Report provided in meeting agenda packet. Stoudt called particular attention to several line items, including:
 - 2018 Montour County Commissioners' Tourism Fund Grant – Signage
 - Signage has been ordered and is expected to arrive by the first week of September
 - Permits have been approved for signage at Montgomery Park
 - River Drive parcel (North Branch Canal Trail trailhead and river access)
 - A boat / trailer remains parked at the site
 - Stoudt has attempted, without success, to identify the owner
 - Stoudt contacted the Mahoning Township Police on 6/20 to request that the owner be notified to remove the items from the property, but the boat and trailer remain
 - Stoudt will post signage at the site to warn the owner that the items will be removed from the property by MARC if not removed by the owner

- Riverside Borough river access
 - Stoudt cleared weeds and fallen limbs and attempted to repair the existing sign on 7/3, but determined that a different hanging method would be needed
 - New hanging hardware has been purchased, but work has been repeatedly delayed by flooding
 - Work will be done as soon as conditions allow

- Hess Recreation Area
 - An accident with injury was reported on July 14 when a woman riding a motorized scooter accidentally went off the side of the Robbins Trail
 - Flooding on July 24 caused severe erosion of several areas along the Robbins Trail and Mahoning Flats Trails
 - A 40ft crack was discovered along the Robbins Trail that may indicate the potential for future problems, particularly during severe rain events

- Montour Preserve
 - Significant flooding of the site occurred on July 24 and again on August 14 after torrential rain events
 - Major erosion of site trails and damages to site bridges have been repeatedly repaired by MARC staff
 - Flooding of the boat house occurred during the August 14 event, damaging some minor supplies and partially inundating the Bobcat utility vehicle, but water levels did not rise high enough to damage the vehicle's engine
 - The Muskrat Blind and Smokehouse Blind wildlife observation blinds were both partly inundated
 - Carpeting in both blinds was destroyed and has been removed by MARC staff
 - Bear-resistant dumpsters have been delivered and installed near the Goose Cove and Heron Cove restrooms
 - All trash cans have been removed from the property
 - The Bobcat utility vehicle was in the shop for several weeks and required major repairs to be restored to a safe operating condition (unrelated to flooding)
 - The expense far exceeded initial estimates, but were deemed necessary by Stoudt

- North Branch Canal Trail
 - Flooding damages from the July 24 and August 14 storms caused inundation of several sections of trail and damages to the ford crossing at mile marker 2.7
 - Trail Steward Wayne Kashner has repaired most damages and continues to monitor and care for the trail
 - An adjacent landowner or leasing farmer has placed a large pile of straw bales on Montour County / North Branch Canal Trail property at mile marker 1.7, near the River Drive / Mt. Zion Road intersection
 - Stoudt is seeking to identify the individual(s) responsible and will require the removal of the materials
 - Signage will be placed at the site to identify it as part of the North Branch Canal Trail under the management of MARC, allowing MARC to more easily request law enforcement assistance when needed

- Special events
 - The Hopewell Challenge mountain bike race will be held at the Hopewell Park / Danville Borough Farm trails on Saturday, 9/1

Old Business

- No old business

New Business

- **Bobcat Update**

- Stoudt noted there has been significant work done on the Bobcat and the expense to repair the machine was \$5,112.39. This is included in Stoudt's expense report and a motion would need to be made to approve the repairs. Stoudt's intention is that this cost can be covered through the grant for the Montour Preserve, since most of the usage takes place at that managed property. Motion: Dan Hartman; Second: Tyler Dombroski; Motion passed unanimously.
- Stoudt researched a new ATV vehicle and received a quote of approximately \$8,000.00 (not including the cost of destination and setup). Stoudt stated he would research possible grant opportunities to cover some portion of a cost of a new vehicle.

- **River Towns Race Series**

- Aside from the Humdinger, each race is up for discussion. Stoudt reviewed each past race and asked the board to review the idea of just doing individual races and not calling it a "series". Further discussion planned for next meeting.

- **Danville Community Foundation Grant**

- Stoudt informed the board that he applied for a grant from the Danville Area Community Foundation with the hope that if MARC were fortunate enough to receive the grant, this may cover the cost of purchasing a trailer (approximately \$5,000.00). There will be an update at a future meeting.

Other Items

- **Discussion of MARC Organizational Structure**

- Stoudt reported that the repeated storms in recent weeks had prevented him from spending the time needed to further research options for MARC's organizational structure. Stoudt plans to have an update at the next meeting.

Adjournment

- Treasurer Bill Lavage adjourned the meeting at 7:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Johns
MARC Secretary
August 27, 2018