

December 12, 2016 MARC Meeting Minutes

MARC Attendees:

Frank Dombroski
Heather Good
Kevin Herritt
Commissioner Ken Holdren
Chris Johns
Bill Lavage
Dr. Victor Marks
Mike Mills
Joe Ward

Bob Stoudt
Denny Piatt

Public:

Lloyd Bunch

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by President Mike Mills.

OFFICER REPORTS

President's Report

President Mills discussed Stoudt's pay rate. Since starting with MARC in January, 2010, Stoudt has not had a pay increase, instead going from full-time salaried to part-time hourly employment at \$20/hour. President Mills proposed a 10% salary increase from \$20/hour to \$22/hour. Motion to approve by Frank Dombroski, 2nd by Bill Lavage. Motion passed unanimously, despite concern by Stoudt regarding budget implications. Stoudt expressed his gratitude for the board's support.

President Mills discussed his desire to more effectively collaborate with the Geisinger Health System, particularly in regard to providing opportunities for children in need of medical care. Commissioner Holdren and Dr. Marks noted the names of several potential contacts MARC might contact to initiate such a program. Commissioner Holdren, Dr. Marks and Stoudt will collaborate to determine a best course of action. Stoudt noted one option for immediate collaboration, involving the potential to partner with Geisinger's Pediatrics Department for a race in 2017. Stoudt will contact the race lead at Geisinger to attempt to work the race into the 2017 River Towns Race Series schedule.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Holdren provided an overview of the Treasurer's report. Reports from Ozark & Shultz are in agreement with MARC's internal reports. Motion to approve by Commissioner Holdren, 2nd by Frank Dombroski. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report

In Secretary Tyler Dombroski's absence, President Mills noted the November meeting minutes. Motion to approve by Commissioner Holdren, 2nd by Chris Johns. Motion passed unanimously.

PARTNER REPORTS

Washingtonville Borough

Frank Dombroski noted that the new gates at the Washingtonville park have been installed. The gates are closed and locked each night to deter vandalism. Vandalism has dropped dramatically since the installation.

The proposed flag pole in the PA-54/Strawberry Ridge Road intersection was rejected by PennDOT. The 2nd round of 'Welcome to Washingtonville' banner sales is ongoing.

Danville Borough

Kevin Herritt reported the Borough public works crew took care of several potholes on the Hess Recreation Area access road. Discussion of additional repairs is ongoing.

Riverside Borough

Bill Lavage noted the work at the Riverside river access. Stoudt reported that MARC will likely resume work on enhancements, including signage, in spring 2017.

Montour County

Commissioner Holdren noted progress on the Montour Preserve grant. Commissioner Holdren also noted progress on scheduling a meeting regarding the North Branch Canal Trail landowner. Montour County's budget is expected to be adopted 12/27 with elimination of the per capita tax and no increase in the real estate tax. Commissioner Holdren noted recent press regarding use of Act 13 funds for recreation projects and noted the county's intention to ensure compliance with rules governing the use of those funds.

Danville Area School District

Chris Johns expects to present the Interscholastic Mountain Bike Team concept to the DASD School Board on Jan. 10.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lloyd Bunch commended the Montour County Conservation District's ongoing efforts and hoped the MCCD and Montour County might be able to take advantage of recently announced federal wetland protection/restoration grants.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

President Mills noted the Assistant Director's report in the agenda packet.

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

Denny Piatt supplemented the Maintenance Technician's report in the agenda packet. Denny noted the ongoing struggle to keep restrooms clean at the Preserve. Recent community service helpers have been excellent.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Stoudt provided a brief overview of the Director's report included in the agenda packet, commenting on the pending North Branch Canal Trail grant reimbursement, Montour Preserve donations, and a \$10,000 donation by Service 1st to MARC's general operations.

OLD BUSINESS

2017 Lawn Care Invitation for Bids

Stoudt presented the draft 2017 lawn care invitation to bid package. The document is essentially unchanged from the 2016 package, with updates to the scope of work for the North Branch Canal Trail, Hess Recreation Area and Montour Preserve. Motion to approve by Commissioner Holdren, 2nd by Kevin Herritt. Motion passed unanimously. Stoudt will advertise in local newspapers, on MARC's Facebook page and on MARC's website. Stoudt will also email to all previous bidders.

NEW BUSINESS

DCNR Resolution for Montour Preserve Grant

Stoudt provided an overview of the terms of the DCNR grant to help fund MARC's operations and programming at the Montour Preserve. These grants will be the method of providing the \$200,000 in state support announced several weeks ago by Senator John Gordner. Motion by Commissioner Holdren to approve the resolution as documented on page 16 of the agenda packet, 2nd by Bill Lavage. Motion passed unanimously.

Auditor Selection for DCNR Grant Performance Audit

Stoudt discussed the DNCR requirement for a performance audit of the proposed Montour Preserve grant. Stoudt contacted several local groups for recommendations; all recommended Dan Brewer at Brewer & Company, LLC in Bloomsburg. Using the grant amount and estimated number of transactions provided by Stoudt, Brewer & Company quoted a cost of \$2,100 to perform a performance audit as specified by DCNR. Commissioner Holdren also spoke in favor of Brewer & Co. Motion by Commissioner Holdren to approve using Brewer & Co. for DCNR Montour Preserve grant performance audit, 2nd by Dr. Marks. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER ITEMS

Degenstein Foundation Challenge Grant

Commissioner Holdren and Stoudt will contact local media to promote the need to finish the match for the Degenstein Foundation Grant, ideally before the end of the year.

Service 1st and Danville Area Community Foundation Contributions

Stoudt made note of recent contributions to MARC and/or MARC's funds at the Danville Area Community Foundation/Central Susquehanna Community Foundation. Service 1st has donated \$10,000 to MARC for general operational support. From funds at the Danville Area Community Foundation, MARC has received: \$500 from the Holdren Family Fund for general organizational support (to MARC); \$500 from the Beverly J. Laubach Fund for support of the Montour Preserve (to MARC's CSCF Montour Preserve Fund); and \$1,700 from the Victor and Linda Marks Family Fund for support of the Montour Preserve (to MARC's CSCF Montour Preserve Fund). Stoudt will send formal thank-you letters to each donor.

MARC Fundraiser

As noted by Commissioner Holdren at MARC's November meeting, community volunteers have offered to help organize a raffle fundraiser for MARC. After much discussion, it was decided the probable return on investment of time and effort would not make sense, but additional options will be considered.

ADJOURNMENT

President Mills adjourned the meeting at 8:09pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bob Stoudt
(acting secretary)
12/12/16