

May 21, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

MEETING ATTENDEES:

MARC BOARD MEMBERS

Mike Mills, Frank Dombroski, Kevin Herritt, Commissioner Dan Hartman, Dr. Kendra Boell, Heather Good
(NO QUORUM)

MARC STAFF

Bob Stoudt

PUBLIC

Aanya Chopra

Call to Order

- Chairman Mike Mills called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Officer Reports

- Chairman's Report
 - Chairman Mills noted the lack of a quorum. No official business may be conducted; all business items will be tabled until the June 25 meeting.
- Treasurer's Report
 - Assistant Treasurer Mills reported that the reports from Susan Shultz Accounting were found to contain several errors and were not distributed as part of the agenda packet. The accountant's reports from February, March, April and May will need to be reviewed and acted upon at the June meeting. Assistant Treasurer Mills briefly reviewed the internally prepared reports provided in the agenda packet. No new concerns were noted.
- Secretary's Report
 - In the absence of Secretary Chris Johns, Chairman Mills called the board's attention to the April meeting minutes as distributed at the meeting. Commissioner Hartman noted an error under the Secretary's report, indicating that Dr. Marks had not seconded the motion to approve the March meeting minutes. It was believed that Bill Lavage had instead seconded the motion. Stoudt will revise the April meeting minutes accordingly and will redistribute for consideration and possible approval at the June meeting.

Partner Reports

- Washingtonville Borough
 - Frank Dombroski reported that the May 5th Washingtonville Community Beautification Day event was quite successful, with good turn-out. All planned projects were completed.
 - Danville Little League may use the ballfield at the Delong Park on an as-needed basis.
- Danville Borough
 - Kevin Herritt reported that the Montour County Sportsmen Working for Kids fishing derby scheduled for May 19 was postponed due to rain and high stream levels. The event will be rescheduled to May 26.
 - Stoudt and Herritt reported that the Borough of Danville will receive \$620,629 in funding from the PennDOT 2018 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside program for construction of one mile of paved pedestrian and bicycle trail atop the Hospital Run and the Upper Susquehanna levees as part of the North Branch Canal Trail system. It is anticipated that the trail construction will occur in 2019 at the earliest, after the current levee-raising project is completed.
- Riverside Borough
 - No representatives present; no report.
- Montour County
 - The County's 2018 disbursement of Act 13 (Marcellus Legacy Fund) funding from the Commonwealth has not yet been received. It is tentatively expected in July.
- Danville Area School District
 - No representatives present; no report.

Public Comment

- None

Assistant Director's Report (Jon Beam)

- Provided in meeting agenda packet

Maintenance Technician's Report (Dennis Piatt)

- Provided in meeting agenda packet

Director's Report (Bob Stoudt)

- Stoudt briefly reviewed portions of the Director's report provided in the agenda packet. Stoudt noted details of the recently completed Scale the Trail 4 Kids and Montour 24 Endurance Runs.
- Stoudt also reported the details of the May 20 North Branch Canal Trail cleanup event:
 - Roughly 25 volunteers, MARC staff and board members attended
 - 209 tires were collected and disposed of (paid for by the Northumberland County Conservation District's Mosquito-Borne Disease Control Program (funded by PA DEP))
 - Roughly 15 yds³ of trash was gathered and disposed of
 - Stoudt thanked North Branch Canal Trail Trail Steward Wayne Kashner for his leadership and major efforts to plan and execute the event

- Stoudt reported a black bear with cubs had been seen along the Ridgefield Point Loop Trail at the Montour Preserve on 5/20 and 5/21; Stoudt is in contact with the PA Game Commission to address the situation. Warning signs have been posted at trail access points.
- Stoudt reported that MARC's new Seasonal Maintenance Technician, Lesley Yeich, officially began on May 2.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- None

Other Items

- **North Branch Canal Trail Donation**
 - Stoudt reported that a donor had contributed \$1,000 to MARC's Pass-Through Fund at the Central Susquehanna Community Foundation to support the North Branch Canal Trail project. Stoudt advised the board that he would request permission during MARC's June meeting to transfer these funds to MARC's checking account to cover the costs of the May 20 cleanup event.
- **Discussion of MARC Organizational Structure**
 - Stoudt reported on several recent meetings with local recreation and other non-profit groups to discuss possible partnership and collaboration opportunities. Stoudt also reported that he'd spoken with two regional park managers with 'Friends Of' groups at their sites. Both reported that the 'Friends' accomplished many good projects and improved the parks, but both also reported that the projects that were completed were not necessarily high-priority objectives for the park and did not improve the parks' financial situation. Stoudt is neutral to slightly negative on the idea of creating a 'Friends of' group for MARC and currently believes a transition from a commission structure to 501(c)(3) status may be MARC's best option, assuming concerns can be adequately addressed.
 - Chairman Mills noted that more discussion will be needed at the June meeting before any possible decisions might be made.

Adjournment

- Chairman Mills adjourned the meeting at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Stoudt
Acting Secretary
May 23, 2018