

## **March 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Montour Preserve Environmental Education Center, 374 Preserve Rd, Danville, PA 17821  
and online through Zoom

### **MEETING ATTENDEES**

#### **MARC BOARD MEMBERS (online)**

Elizabeth Rake, Tami Gabrielsen, Chadd Roadarmel, Kristin Mikita, Commissioner Rebecca Dressler, Brett Johnson

#### **MARC BOARD MEMBERS (in person)**

Chris Johns, Marlene Gunther, Bill Byron, Mike Wert, Dr. John Bulger

#### **MARC STAFF (online)**

none

#### **MARC STAFF (in person)**

Bob Stoudt

#### **PUBLIC (online)**

Wayne Kashner and Otto Kurecian (Columbia Montour Visitors Bureau)

#### **PUBLIC (in person)**

none

#### **MEDIA (online)**

none

#### **MEDIA (in person)**

Drew Mumich (Press Enterprise)

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by Vice-Chairman Dr. John Bulger.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

## **OFFICER REPORTS**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

In the absence of Chairman Dombroski, Vice-Chairman Dr. John Bulger noted that Tyler was not present tonight and there was nothing new to note other than further updates throughout the meeting from Bob Stoudt.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Dr. Bulger called attention to the Treasurer's report, as provided as pages 2 – 13 of the meeting agenda packet. No concerns or questions were raised.

*Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report: Bill Byron*

*Second: Marlene Gunther*

*Motion passed unanimously.*

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Secretary Johns called the group's attention to the minutes of the February 26, 2024 meeting, as distributed with the meeting agenda packet.

*Motion to approve the February 26, 2024 meeting minutes: Bill Byron*

*Second: Marlene Gunther*

*Motion passed unanimously.*

## **PARTNER REPORTS**

### **DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Chris Johns noted nothing new to report other than updates that might be shared by Bob Stoudt regarding updates to Hopewell Park (and associated support from the Central Susquehanna Hammers Mountain Bike team).

### **DANVILLE BOROUGH**

Chadd Roadarmel noted nothing new to report. Stoudt noted he met with the Danville Borough property Committee and there will be a further update in April as it relates to the Hess Field access road.

### **MAHONING TOWNSHIP**

Marlene Gunther noted nothing new to update.

### **MONTOUR COUNTY**

Commissioner Dressler noted nothing new to report.

### **RIVERSIDE BOROUGH**

Elizabeth Rake noted nothing new to report.

### **WASHINGTONVILLE BOROUGH**

In the absence of Tyler and Frank Dombroski, Stoudt noted progress was being made on the DeLong Park Pavilion Project, which will be included later in the meeting.

## **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Vice-Chairman Bulger called attention to the Assistant Director's report provided on page 14 of the meeting agenda packet.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Vice-Chairman Bulger called attention to the Director's Report provided on pages 15 - 26 of the meeting agenda packet.

Stoudt noted several updates that were included in the Hopewell Pump Track and Hess Field Access Road.

Finally, Stoudt reminded Commission members of the need to submit State Ethics Commission Statement of Financial Interests Forms for 2024.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **RENEWAL OF MONTOUR PRESEVE COOPERATIVE SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE WILDLIFE SERVICES (not to exceed \$5,184.71)**

As documented on pages 27 – 31 of the meeting agenda packet, Stoudt requested approval to renew the annual agreement with the United States Department of Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services to control Canada Geese, feral ducks and geese, and mute swans at the Montour Preserve. Stoudt noted MARC has worked with the USDA since 2016 for this service.

*Motion to approve the renewal of the annual agreement with the United States Department of Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services to control Canada Geese, feral ducks and geese, and mute swans at the Montour Preserve, in an amount not to exceed \$5,184.71: Marlene Gunther*

*Second: Bill Byron*

*Motion passed unanimously.*

### **APPROVAL TO PAY DELONG PARK PAVILION PROJECT EXPENSES (not to exceed \$11,000)**

As documented on page 25 of the meeting agenda packet, Stoudt requested approval to pay up to \$11,000 in expenses for the DeLong Park Pavilion Project, using \$1,000 in Community Giving Foundation: Danville grant funds, \$2,500 in funds from Washingtonville Borough, \$2,000 in funds from the Washingtonville Revitalization Committee, \$2,000 in funds from the Elks, and \$3,500 in unrestricted MARC funds. Expenses have been vetted by Washingtonville Borough officials and are expected to be paid before mid-May.

*Motion to approve the payment of up to \$11,000 in DeLong Park Pavilion Project expenses, using \$1,000 in Community Giving Foundation: Danville grant funds, \$2,500 in funds from Washingtonville Borough, \$2,000 in funds from the Washingtonville Revitalization Committee, \$2,000 in funds from the Elks, and \$3,500 in unrestricted MARC funds: Chris Johns*

*Second: Bill Byron*

*Motion passed unanimously.*

**APPROVAL TO REDESIGNATE SERVICE 1<sup>ST</sup> FEDERAL CREDIT UNION CHECKING ACCOUNTS (ID 41 AND 49) TO HOLD FUNDS FOR SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION STREAM AND WATERSHED ENHANCEMENT GRANT AND SUSQUEHANNA GREENWAY PARTNERSHIP GRANT**

Stoudt requested approval to redesignate the two unused checking accounts (ID 41 and 49) at the Service 1<sup>st</sup> Federal Credit Union to hold funds to be received for the Susquehanna River Basin Commission Stream and Watershed Enhancement Grant and Susquehanna Greenway Partnership Grants.

*Motion to approve the redesignation of the two unused checking accounts (ID 41 and 49) at the Service 1st Federal Credit Union to hold funds to be received for the Susquehanna River Basin Commission Stream and Watershed Enhancement Grant and Susquehanna Greenway Partnership Grants: Bill Byron*

*Second: Marlene Gunther*

*Motion passed unanimously.*

**APPROVAL OF MONTOUR PRESERVE PICNIC AREA PLUMBING REPAIRS (not to exceed \$5,000)**

Stoudt requested approval to spend up to \$5,000 to repair the plumbing in the Montour Preserve's Goose Cove and Heron Cove Picnic Areas.

*Motion to approve spending up to \$5,000 to repair the plumbing in the Montour Preserve's Goose Cove and Heron Cove Picnic Areas: Chris Johns*

*Second: Marlene Gunther*

*Motion passed unanimously.*

**APPROVAL TO HOST SUMMER INTERN (\$3,000 Stipend)**

Stoudt requested approval to seek and bring aboard a university summer intern for the May – August timeframe. MARC would provide a \$3,000 stipend to the intern at the successful conclusion of the internship. MARC's staff is in need of additional help during the busy summer season, but is not in a position to hire another part-time staff member.

*Motion to approve seeking and bringing aboard a university summer intern for the May – August timeframe, to be paid a \$3,000 stipend at the successful conclusion of the internship: Bill Byron*

*Second: Marlene Gunther*

*Motion passed unanimously.*

**APPROVAL TO HOLD MONTOUR PRESERVE FUNDRAISER WALK / RUN EVENT ON OCTOBER 5, 2024 IN CONJUNCTION WITH COLUMBIA MONTOUR VISITORS BUREAU COVERED BRIDGE FESTIVAL AT BLOOMSBURG FAIRGROUNDS**

Stoudt requested approval to hold a Montour Preserve Fundraiser Walk / Run Event on October 5, 2024, in Conjunction with the Columbia Montour Visitors Bureau's Covered Bridge Festival at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds, subject to insurance and permitting approvals. MARC continues to work closely with the Columbia Montour Visitors Bureau on numerous projects and it is hoped the joint event would be of benefit to both organizations.

*Motion to approve holding a Montour Preserve Fundraiser Walk / Run Event on October 5, 2024, in Conjunction with the Columbia Montour Visitors Bureau's Covered Bridge Festival at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds, subject to insurance and permitting approvals: Chris Johns*

*Second: Bill Byron*

*Motion passed unanimously.*

## **OTHER ITEMS**

No other items for consideration.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing no objections, Vice-Chairman Bulger adjourned the meeting at 7:22pm.

Next meeting: Monday, April 22, 2024, at the Montour Preserve Environmental Education Center and online through Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Johns, Secretary