

**Armstrong Rails to Trails Association**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**4-5-10**

Attendance:

Directors: John Placha, Dick Starr, Toni Henry, Joyce Appel, Joanne Haneke,  
Ron Steffey

Members: Lola Buchan, Louise Baker, Marty Henry

- The meeting was called to order by President John Placha at 6:30 PM
- The minutes from the March meeting were distributed. Ron made a motion to approve the minutes once they were amended and Joyce Appel seconded. Motion carried.
- The financial reports from February and March were distributed and reviewed. Joyce Appel motioned to approve, Toni Henry seconded. Motion carried.
- Toni Henry made a motion to supply Joanne Henke with funds to purchase ink and paper and Joyce Appel seconded. The motion was approved.
- Toni Henry noted that she and Sara Heppenstahl would meet to discuss membership and Adopt the Trail. Joanne reported that not all the members have renewed their membership for 2010. Ron suggested that renewal notices be sent out to past members. Joanne agreed to do this.
- There was no information available regarding a newsletter.
- Toni reported on the East Brady work day that was conducted on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. It was noted that 19 volunteers worked several hours to clear brush and dumpsites and to pick up litter. Additional work days will be scheduled.
- Ron and Toni also reviewed the progress on the signage committee. 10 parking locations were surveyed for signage and a proposal received from a signage vendor. The grant application is near completion and will be submitted this week. Dick Starr motioned for ARTA to be the sponsor of the Signage Grant, Toni Henry and Ron Steffey to be Project Manager and Assistant Project Manager, and include the Allegheny Valley Land Trust as a cosponsor having the ability to procure materials for the signage project. Joyce Appel seconded. Motion carried. Ron noted that a request for 50% of the grant money will be made.
- Ron discussed requesting a \$4,000.00 grant from the Volunteer Fund for surface materials for the trail in East Brady. Toni Henry will work on the application. Toni motioned to prepare the application for board review at the May ARTA meeting. Dick Starr seconded. Motion carried.
- Toni made a motion to have ARTA support a Kiski Junction Railroad Rails with Trails Project and send letters of support to local officials. Dick seconded and the Motion carried.
- Ron discussed the Rails to Trails Conservancy survey boxes and trail counters to be installed at several locations on the trail. The boxes and counters will be in place for 3 months.
- Louise Baker reminded members that the Poker Run is scheduled for June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Toni suggested that members meet an hour early to ride the Armstrong Trail together prior to meetings and it was a general consensus to do so.

- A review of the check signing authorization procedures will be reviewed for the May meeting.
- Ron noted that some maintenance work from Lock 8 to Nautical Mile must be done prior to the April nature walks. He reminded members that volunteers are needed to lead the walks.
- It was noted that Court ordered Community Service hours are being utilized to work on litter pick-up in several areas along the trail.
- Ron discussed a plan to drain the Brady tunnel of water.
- Toni mentioned that the Brady's bend Historical Society could be interested in a tour of historic sites along the trail. A request to donate a historic plaque may be made to the group.
- A DCNR C2P2 Grant for design and construction project of a 4000 foot trail connection near Mosgrove will be submitted by AVLTT in April. Joyce made a motion that was seconded by Dick for ARTA to compose a letter of support for the project. The motion was carried.
- The next meeting will be Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and carried.