

**ARMSTRONG RAILS TO TRAILS ASSOCIATION**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**7/11/2011**

Attending: John Placha, Joanne Haneke, Ron Steffen, Marty Henry, Toni Henry, Sarah Heppenstall, Sam Heppenstall, Angela Burtner, Carol Atwell, Dennis Hawley

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM

Toni Henry made a motion to accept the minutes, second by Dennis Hawley, motion carried.

Financial report was discussed. Sarah Heppenstall motioned to approve payment for printing and postage costs, Dennis Hawley seconded. Motion carried.

**Committee reports:**

Adopt a Trail – Sarah Heppenstall reported that new sections have been adopted since the last meeting.

Fund Raising –

- Trail Mix - Joanne noted trail mix is still available.
- A Poker Run will be held September 17th. Sarah Heppenstall is working on this project.
- Marty Henry offered Cow Chip Bingo raffle tickets to the organization for purchase. This is a fund raiser for our neighbor the Redbank Trail.

Membership – Sarah noted that since so many of our new members have opted for lifetime memberships we need to find ways to encourage these members to continue giving. The Memorial Fund and the Day of Giving were mentioned as ways to encourage future donations. New memberships continue to come in.

Website/PR –Toni Henry submitted a news article to the website and local papers. The upcoming workday in East Brady will be photographed and sent to the website and papers as well.

Newsletter – The summer newsletter has been mailed. In an effort to cut costs Sarah is looking for members who are willing to receive their copies via email. Toni Henry suggested using color only on the outside pages. The next newsletter will be published in early October. Toni recommended that the Adopt a Trail volunteers at Farmer's National Bank be featured as Volunteers in the Spotlight.

Signage –

- John Placha noted that he installed signs at Rosston.
- Toni Henry reviewed 2 quotes received for Respect Private Property signs. The board agreed to use Vinyl Graphics and to order 15 signs for ARTA and to contact RVTA to see if they wanted additional signs. Dennis Hawley motioned, Toni Henry seconded, motion carried. Toni will also request 2 signs in Coroplast from Vinyl Graphics noting "Road Temporarily closed due to construction". Toni Henry motioned that we purchase 2 signs at no more than \$35.00 each, Sarah Heppenstall seconded, motion carried.
- Toni Henry continues to work on gathering information for the Kittanning business kiosk. Work cannot be finalized until the GAP Trail makes a decision regarding us using their standards and the EPT decides on a logo. Sarah suggested setting up a meeting with Ray Boarts soon to discuss the delay on this sign.

- The board discussed the purchase of 100 volunteer T-Shirts. Toni Henry motioned that we proceed with this order at no more than \$7.00 a shirt. Sarah Heppenstall seconded. Motion carried. Toni will contact RVTA to see if they would also like to add to this order.

#### Maintenance –

- Mowing continues along several miles of trail.
- A work day is scheduled from East Brady to Redbank this Wednesday, July 14. Work will consist of evaluating gates for locking and installing no motorized vehicle signs.
- Spreading of limestone in the Greys Eddy to Hook Station area will occur mid-August.

Chip N Trail – A response from AVL T regarding the request to match our Chip N Trail funds has not been received due to the meeting being canceled last month. A \$7,500.00 grant was received for chips in the Greys Eddy/Hooks area from The Pittsburgh Foundation.

Nominating Committee – The nominating Committee composed of Marty and Toni Henry, Sarah and Sam Heppenstall, Angela Burtner and Carol Atwell met at Fox's Pizza along the trail prior to the regular Board of Directors meeting. Patty Brunner and John Placha were nominated for 3 year terms. Carol Atwell made the motion, Angela Burtner seconded, motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Misc. Committees – Sarah Heppenstall noted that 5 new committees have been formed and that she will kick off meetings with each of them.

AVLT - Ron distributed the AVL T report prior to the meeting.

Day of Giving - Joanne Haneke noted that the Day of Giving will be on May 10 next year.

Geocache – Dennis Hawley reported that there are 21 caches placed in Armstrong County and 2 are on the trail.

Annual Meeting – The Annual meeting will be held at 6:30 October 10 with election of board members, the regular Board of Directors meeting will follow with the election of officers. Sarah will see if the meeting could take place at Clark's restaurant. The October newsletter will advertise this meeting

Retreat – The Board of Directors retreat will be held at the AVL T office at 2:00 on Sunday, August 7 with a dinner break at 4:00. The meeting will possibly be preceded by a ride. Short and long term planning will be the purpose of the meeting.

#### Other business -

- Ron Steffey suggested that we look into ways to protect our trail. He suggested surveillance cameras. Toni Henry will write a letter to AVL T requesting funding for these.
- Joann Haneke read a letter from Cowanshannock Watershed regarding cleaning of restroom facilities. It was agreed to table the discussion pending more information.
- Joann also read a request from the Armstrong Conservation District asking that ARTA agree to become a nominating organization for consideration of becoming a possible member of the board. Attendance at the dinner at Lenape Gold Course was also requested. Toni Henry made a motion to not participate and Sarah Heppenstall seconded. Motion carried.
- The Brick Memorial – Relay for Life was discussed and Sarah noted that we may want to consider memorial plaques for the wall by the new trail side development.
- A form drafted by Sandy Mateer regarding trespassing was distributed for review.
- Angela Burtner suggested ways to keep unwanted motorized vehicles off of the trail.

- Angela also proposed a project to rehab the area around the old trail turn table. She will form a committee to look into this.
- Toni Henry motioned to adjourn, second by Sarah Heppenstall , motion carried.
- Next meeting is August 8, 2011. Sarah will check with Clark's Restaurant to see if we can meet there.

Bike/July 2011 meeting minutes