

Armstrong Rail to Trail Association (ARTA)
December 2009 Directors Meeting
12/7/2009

Attendance:

Directors: John Placha, Joanne Haneke, Dick Starr, Tony Henry, Dennis Hawley, Joyce Appel, Ron Steffey, Patty Brunner, and Mike Steimer
Members and guests: Louise Baker, Cheryl Kastner, Marty Henry, Sarah Heppenstall, Joel Warren

Meeting was called to order by President Placha at 6:25PM.
Minutes from the November meeting were approved.
Financial Report was approved

Business:

- ARTA Monthly meetings will be held the first Monday at every month at the Armstrong County Commissioners Conference Room at 6:30 PM.
- Committee Reports:
 - Adopt a Trail** – A revitalization of the Adopt a Trail Program is being worked on.
 - Membership** – Original membership list was divided up among the committee members and calls/contacts are being made.
 - Fundraising/Grants**
 - Website/Newsletter**
 - Anyone wishing to serve on a committee is encouraged to attend the next Meeting on January 4, 2010 or contact the Armstrong Trail at armtrail@windstream.net or 724-543-4478
 - Maintenance Committee** was formed with Dick Starr, John Placha, Mike Steimer and Ron Steffey.
- **Tourist Bureau** is changing their brochure to be published every 2 years as a means to better serve its members and the public. AVLT and ARTA are combining to pay for a full page ad in the brochure. Joanne will design the page ad and submit it to the board at the January meeting.
- **Projects & Grants:**
 - **Chip N Trail**
 - Total donations for the Chip and Trail Project is \$2920.
 - **Geo Cache**
 - Dennis Hawley reported that 3 different coins have been designed; 6 GPS units have been ordered by the Tourist Bureau; January there will be a marketing plan completed for the Geo Cache project and May 10th there will be a kick off event.
 - **Map Markers** will be installed after hunting season.
 - **Adopt a Trail**
 - ✂ ARTA is looking for old and new volunteers to adopt sections of the trail.
- **Events**
 - April 24th or 25th or May 1st or 2nd are the possibilities for a Wild Flower Spring Ride from Lock 8 to Grays Eddy for approximately 8 miles. The Army Corps of Engineers will be contacted concerning the use of Lock 8 for the ride. Commissioners and

Representatives will be invited to the ride. We need to decide how we want to promote this event either as a fundraiser or a membership drive.

- June 12th is the Poke Run benefiting the Kittanning Public Library. The Armstrong Rail Trail could have a membership drive at a station.
- Armstrong Trail Workdays will begin in February

➤ **Updates**

- **Erie to Pittsburgh Trail** – Quarterly meeting in Jamestown was attended by Mike Steimer with nothing new to report. The public meeting 11/16 at the Freeport Fire Hall went well with a very good attendance.
- **Moody Case** A Petition for Writ of Certiorari has been filed with the United States Supreme Court. Information will be posted as it becomes available.
- **Rosebud-Kiski Junction Railroad**

New Business

- Dennis made a motion to pay the Armstrong Tourist Bureau dues, Chamber of Commerce dues and the required insurance payments. All were in favor.
- A Budget needs drafted for 2010

Next Meeting is February 2, 2010