
MINUTES

AD HOC TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING – July 20, 2016 – 6:30 PM

Regular Members Present:

x	Lorraine Connell	x	Charles Morgan Platt
	Eric DeSanto		Joseph Sparone
x	Barbara Edwards	x	Melissa Schmieder
x	Gregg Forsbrey	x	Ken Zarouni
x	Andrew Pellek		Max Zoller
	Committeeman James LiaBraaten	x	Mike Jeske, Open Space
	Walter Cullen, Recreation Representative		Vacant, Enviromental Comm

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Daily Record on July 5, 2016 and was posted on the bulletin board in the Washington Township Municipal Building on the same date. This meeting is being held at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 37 East Springtown Rd, Long Valley, New Jersey.

THE MEETING OPENED AT 6:36 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Introduction to Boy Scout, Alec DiLullo, who provided an explanation of his Eagle Scout project to include marking the trails in Washington Township and mapping them.

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michelle Lis and Kerry Gaskill attended the meeting to present their recommendation/request for a walkway at Rock Spring Park. They provided a detailed description and mapping of the proposed trail's benefits to the community. They requested the Ad Hoc Committee's help in moving forward with the walkway, requesting funding and help them to complete the process of building the walkway.

CLOSE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM July 20th, 2016

Motion was made by Committee Member, Melissa Schmieder and seconded by Committee Member, Barbara Edwards.
Voice Vote-

Aye: all except those not present 7/27

CREATE LIST OF EXISTING TRAILS

- Detailed discussion of existing trails and attributes provided to Alec (i.e. multi-user, length, steepness, marked/unmarked, trail tread material, points of interest) for mapping.
 - Hacklebarney trail to Kay Center (located on Hacklebarney Road)
 - Map is on state's website
 - Parking:
 - Columbia Trail-beginning in Mt. Olive
 - Fishing Access
 - Fairview Avenue
 - Center of Town/Schooley's Mountain Road
 - 513/Jenkinson's Nursery
 - East Mill Road

UPDATE OF PREVIOUS ITEMS:

- Mike Jeske provided an update from his :
 - Mike connected with the point of contact, Bob Olsen, who is no longer active. The new point of contact is Regional Superintendent from Fish and Wildlife, Susan Predl, who was not aware of the trail development project. Mike provided the information to her to review. She offered that she would look into it after reading the information Mike provided. The replacement/repair of the bridge was not currently a consideration for the near future.
 - NJ Conservation Foundation is in support of the trail and will provide a letter stating their support.

OPEN DISCUSSION

- Committee discussed viewing Drakestown Preserve map online (off of Fairview Avenue), Crystal Springs/Califon Park toward Hunterdon (Mountain Top/Tetertown Revene)
- Cateract Park Trail map – Soup Can Trail/existing trails-two trails on map do not exist-Mike Jeske clarified
- Reservoir Road
- Green Acres – off of Black River Road near Mortenhouse Farm-Barbara Edwards has hiked these trails-it was discussed that this may be a potential opportunity down the road, but that it needed to be further investigated.

UPDATE OF ACTION ITEMS FOR MIKE JESKE

- Mike provided an update on the open space map:
 - Spoke to Andrew Coppola, Town Administrator, who has interns working on bringing everything up to date on the open space inventory project. Maps will potentially be updated by the end of August and will be provided to the Committee at that time.
 - GIS Data Sources – spoke to Andrew Coppola-he recommended we reach out to the NJ Highlands Council for a map as a starting point.

OPEN DISCUSSION

- Discussion continued about the existing application deadline of September 1, 2016. Ken will reach out to Andrew Coppola regarding what further information may be needed from the Committee to complete the application.

ADJOURNMENT

8:17 p.m. Motion was made by Committee Member Gregg Forsbrey and seconded by Committee Member Lorraine Connell

Voice Vote-

Aye: All present

Abstain: none

Attest:

Melissa Schmieder, substitute Committee Secretary