

JUNE 2022 SUSQUEHANNOCK TRAIL CLUB MINUTES

Meeting was held at the pavilion at Lyman Run State Park. There were 25 members present: Tom and Jayne Fitzgerald, Doug and Jane Wetherbee, Curt and Penny Weinhold, Rick and Carolyn Oyen, Gary and Alice Buchanan, John and Jan Halter, Wanda Shirk, John Zimmer, Lois Morey, Bill Boyd, Wayne Baumann, Joe Myatovich, Pat Childs, Elizabeth Kapoor, Henry Fuller, Gene Neefe, Helen Bernhardt, Dave McMillan, and Ron Heath.

After the noon dish-to-share meal the meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm by Club President, Wanda Shirk.

We had no minutes for the previous meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT by Bill Boyd: A treasurer's report was presented.

Trails Report by Bill Boyd:

980 trail hours with 40 volunteers as of 5/31/22

- Over (1,00) 100 hrs. was put in thus far in June. New bridge was put in at Stony Run. A sign should be placed near this point for those unfamiliar to that area. Larry Holtzaple put up a temporary sign until a regular one can be made.
- The club was very fortunate to have Abe Peachy a 29 yr. old Mennonite man come from (Ohio) Mifflinburg, PA, to do lots of physical work on sidehill 3 days a week+ chain saw clearing and bridge building other days during May. He stayed at Ole Bull & Scoval
- Branch during this time. He backpacked into the Hammersley, took a cot along for four nights. Wanda & others helped carry tools. Wanda remarked about the area that water spread out from a steady spring. Abe climbed above the trail, then diverted the water with a rock so it would no longer flood that area.
- Jan & John Halter supplied 2 delicious meals on separate dates for Abe & a co-worker, Alan Leister from Wellsboro.
- Projects still undone were at Porter Branch & Osborne Branch where bridges are needed.
- Ford Hollow area needs work, & access by the land owner & permission was given to build a shelter there this year.
- Gary Buchanan & John Sherer took down a large tree along the Gravel Lick trail recently.
- Doug Wetherbee & Curt Weinhold went to Stony Run for trailcare/Doug chainsawed a large tree.
- Ron Heath does much to maintain the dynamite shelter at the bottom of the Sunken Branch.

NEW MEMBERS submitted by Lois Morey:

None

CIRCUIT HIKER REPORT by Lori Szymanik:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mention was made that member, Lori Szymanik delivered Aniela Mae in early June. Mother & Baby are fine.
- Upcoming Events: Galeton Parade, Sat. July 2, meet at school for line-up no later than (10:15) 10:30, parade starts 11 am You may carpool from Lois Morey's residence, meet there no later than (9:45) 10:00. Parade participants are invited to picnic at Lois's following the parade. Grilled hot dogs & drinks provided - please bring dish-to-share & own table service & folding chair.
- Eliot Ness Fest: Must be set up no later than 12 noon **11 a.m.** on Friday, July 15. We are required to maintain booth from **11 a.m.** 5 pm to 8 pm Friday. Saturday from 11 am to 8 pm. Required table skirting has been purchased as well as a new green 10 X 10 Canopy. Volunteers are needed: Gary Buchanan will be there 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. both Friday and Saturday. Assisting will be Fri. 11 am - 2 pm(Hank Fuller?) John Zimmer, 2 - 5 pm(/Gary Buchanan) Wayne Baumann 5 pm - 8 pm/Gene Neefe. Both days are (Sat. could be) split into 3 shifts. Any volunteers should see Gary.
- Wanda mentioned an article from Mountain Home magazine featured a man who ran the God's Country Marathon last yr. & recalled the STC watering station & how thankful he was to it & all the other aid stations.
- Members Rick & Carolyn Oyen, Cleveland, occasional visiting members, were introduced.
- Joe Myatovich traveled 240 miles from near Valley Forge for the meeting & area attractions.
- Dave McMillan spoke of the graying of the Club. He checked average age of members being 70. Noting the Quehanna Trail Group had fizzled in the past, efforts need to be made to retain the members we have. As is typical a few members do most of the work. He tried using demographics to see what folks in different age groups are looking for in recreation. We need to appeal to youngsters & to recruit them. Four out of five of our Officers are in their 70's. On Advisory - our only young member is Chad Rugh. It was decided that Face book, needs more activity on our Club. Joe Myatovich stated Instagram & Twitter get more attention from young folks & may be a better idea. More publicizing of scenics & highlights would help vastly. Starting to invite groups to some events, a good idea. Joe M. said He could put information & photos on Instagram. Our Club has 300 members total, but people may hike the trail once or twice & lose interest several yrs. later. Wanda said her e-mail list is about 60 at present. It is agreed that the trails should be publicized as non-motorized & not multiple use. John Zimmer mentioned hiking is cheap; We should appeal to Churches & other organizations to plan outings on the STS. Dave McMillan said folks will come distances, but we need to concentrate mainly on Locals. Joe M. thought geocaching would be good to attract the younger set. Wayne said area communities certainly should be more involved.

- Chad Rugh & Dave McMillan have seen that the app, Far Out, now has our Club information. Cost was \$500.00. To order a Trail guidebook is \$12.00 .The Club gets 10% of any sold. Our guides (sold out) sold over \$1,200 worth on the app in the first month. (It is not possible to "sell out" on the app. Anyone can buy and download the guide and maps there.)
- Dave M. said more text will be added to the app. Cell service sites will be marked at those spots along the trail.
- Volunteers were asked for a committee to look into publicizing STC events on Instagram. Curt will gather the pics & info from others.
- To close Pat Childs asked if any were interested in hiking the trail in Stony Brook St. Park in NY State perhaps in the fall.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM

NEXT MEETING:

Next Meeting will be at the home of Donna Batterson, Coudersport on Sat., July 9 with a Picnic at noon & meeting to follow.

Meeting minutes taken by Penny Weinhold