

OCTOBER 2022 SUSQUEHANNOCK TRAIL CLUB MINUTES

The October 2022 meeting was held Saturday the 8th at the Lyman Run State Park pavilion. The following 17 members enjoyed a dish-to-pass picnic at noon followed by the business meeting: Wanda Shirk, John Zimmer, Lois Morey, Bill Morey, Bill Boyd, Dave & Roxanne McMillan, Larry Holtzapple, Doug Wetherbee, Curt Weinhold, Gary & Alice Buchanan, Mark Clark, Susie Gribble, Ron Heath, Angela Jackson, Beth Lounsbury, and hiker guest Andi Fuss.

President Wanda Shirk called the meeting to order at 12:50 pm with the reading of the September 2022 meeting minutes by Roxanne McMillan. Motion made by John Zimmer to accept minutes as read and seconded by Beth Lounsbury. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT by Bill Boyd:

A treasurer's report was presented.

TRAILS REPORT by Bill Boyd:

2032 volunteer hours as of September 30, completed by 51 volunteers, 212 hours for September.

NEW MEMBERS by Lois Morey:

- **Angela Jackson, Galetton, PA**
- **Connie Hahn, Hanover, PA**
- **Gwen Ockenlaender, Philadelphia, PA**
- **Michael Rathi, Meadville, PA**

NEW SENIOR LIFE MEMBERS by Lois Morey:

- **Robert Peet & Lee Wisel, Coudersport, PA**

CIRCUIT HIKER REPORT by Lori Szymanik:

- **1277 Matthew "Fun Fact" Gallant from Ayer, MA**

- 1278 Dann Bressler from Creekside, PA
- 1279 Stephanie Wingerter from Creekside, PA
- 1280 Bob Jones from Downingtown, PA
- 1281 Mark Radzin from Greenwich, CT

OLD BUSINESS:

Six bow saws have been purchased and one will be placed in each of the six STS shelters for use by hikers. Each will be marked in some manner as STC property and for use exclusively at the shelter.

Most of the meeting time was used to expand upon the discussion at the September meeting on how to best utilize the generous \$10,000 gift bequeathed to the STC by Jim Bowser. At the last meeting, there was a proposal to invest \$5,000 and to utilize \$5,000 for various projects.

NEW BUSINESS:

After considerable discussion, a motion was made by Gary Buchanan and seconded by John Zimmer, then approved by those in attendance. The motion was to invest \$5,000 by the end of 2022 in a CD paying the best interest rate. Bill Boyd as Treasurer will obtain a CD in the name of the Susquehannock Trail Club per this motion.

The remaining \$5,000 will be used for projects. Two committees were formed – one on equipment and one on trail maintainer recruitment – which will evaluate various options and come to the first meeting in 2023 with recommendations and a proposal for funding.

The “Equipment Committee”, comprised of Larry Holtzapple, Doug Wetherbee, and Bill Boyd, will evaluate what additional trail maintaining equipment is needed, why it is needed, where it is needed, where it will be stored, and the cost of the equipment. Some of the items for consideration could be a second trailer for

towing bigger equipment, brush cutters, loppers, etc. The committee will make recommendations and request funding as appropriate at the next meeting in 2023.

The “Trail Maintainer Recruitment Committee”, comprised of Lori Szymanik, Chad Rugh, Roxanne McMillan, and Wanda Shirk, will consider various options for recruiting maintainers, mentoring and training them, and what equipment should be provided when they start. The idea of a maintainer package will be explored in detail: what is in the package (ex: lopper, folding saw, paint, work gloves, brushes), procedures as to when the items are provided (in stages or all at once?), and expectations. The committee will provide a detailed proposal and request for funding at the first meeting in 2023.

Dave McMillan reported that the STC website now has Bill Boyd’s Potter Leader Enterprise article and the monthly STC Meeting Minutes posted. There are about 1,400 visitors to the site each month lately. Since the new website has been available, there have been more than 10,000 visitors to the STC website.

Reports have come in from hikers that there is a major blowdown near mile 32 on the STS that needs a sawyer.

Dave McMillan reported that the FarOut app can be used by hikers to report trail issues such as blowdowns. Dave McMillan will look into a way to forward this information to Bill Boyd.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm on a cold autumn day.

Meeting minutes taken and submitted by Roxanne McMillan.