

FEBRUARY 2025 SUSQUEHANNOCK TRAIL CLUB MINUTES

The February 2025 meeting was held Saturday, January 11 at the PA Lumber Museum. All enjoyed a dish-to-pass lunch followed by the business meeting. There were 29 members in attendance: Wanda Shirk, Lori Szymanik, Bill Boyd, Lois Morey, Steve Erway, Curt Weinhold, Penny Weinhold, Daniel E Holmes, Willis Sumer, Dave Hajzus, Elizabeth Kapoor, Larry Holtzapple, Barb Miller, Pat Childs, Angela Jackson, Doug Wetherbee, Ron Heath, Jan Halter, John Halter, Seth Batterson, Helen Bernhardt, Janet Smith, Janet Long, David Errick, Wayne Baumann, Jayne K Fitzgerald, Paul Fedalen, Chad Rugh, Sharon Kottwitz. There was also 1 guests present: Cody Whipple (Environmental Education Specialist, Susquehannock/Tioga State Forests)

President Wanda Shirk called the meeting to order at 1:00. January minutes were read by recording secretary Lori Szymanik. Wayne Baumann made a motion to accept the minutes. Angela Jackson seconded the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT by Steve Erway:

BEGINNING BALANCE January 1, 2024			\$853.72
RECEIPTS/INCOME			
Membership Dues			\$2,010.00
Life Membership Dues			3,680.00
Donations			4,175.00
Merchandise Sales			1,745.5
CD Interest			217.23
Gusto/Website Income			255.14
Grant- KTA (shelter rebuild)			500.00
Grant- CFTT			1,355.62
Frolic Dinner Sales			900.00
TOTAL INCOME			14,838.49
BALANCE PLUS RECEIPTS			\$15,692.21

DISBURSEMENTS/EXPENSES			
Quarterly Newsletters			\$1,756.45
Office/Postage			692.33
Merchandise			1,587.39
Sales Tax			94.82
Shelters & Trail Maintenance Equipment			2,776.49
Crew Food/Transport			422.92
Event/Program			495.37
Donations- Wheelchair, PEDF			350.00
Liability Insurance			300.00
Website			271.90
CFTT Life Memberships			2,500.00
Tax Prep/IRS Tax			305.00
Frolic Dinners			900.00
TOTAL EXPENSES			12,562.67
ENDING BALANCE December 31, 2024			\$3,129.54

TRAILS REPORT by Bill Boyd:

- For the month, around 30 hours of trail work have been completed.
- Bill reviewed bridges that will need to be fixed, repaired or replaced.
- Jack Buckwalter found ideal orange spray paint for blazes on the STS.

NEW MEMBERS by Lois Morey:

Regular Memberships

- Seth Batterson, Coudersport, PA
- Lisa & Jeff Werner, Genesee, PA

Life Memberships

- Jack Barnhart, Red Lion, PA
- David Errick, Port Allegany, PA
- Janet Smith, Coudersport, PA

CIRCUIT HIKER REPORT by Lori Szymanik:

- 1337 Melanie Lechler
- 1338 Vanessa Lechler

HIKE REPORT:

- Larry Holtzapple will plan a hike for March. Look for an email from Pat Childs with information.
- Daniel Holmes is planning a Hammersley Hike for Presidents Day Weekend.
- Pat Childs will send list around if you want to be added to the hiking list.
- Pat Childs plans to send out a survey to assess for hike preferences, such as, length of hike, time of day, weekday vs weekend.
- Janet Smith will lead some hikes on the STS as she re-hikes it.

OLD BUSINESS:

- There was a discussion on the royalties that we receive from the Far Out app. We also discussed how the app works/how valuable it is for hikers—especially younger hikers who carry cell phones.
- There was a discussion on how our endowment fund and life memberships work.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Our guest, Cody Whipple, environmental specialist in Susquehannock (District 15) and Tioga (District 16) State Forests, talked to members about various forestry topics, such as, careers in conservation, programs in local schools, programs in the community, descriptions of jobs in DCNR, timber management. He also answered member questions.
- Members discussed posted section on the West Branch Trail. That section of the trail goes through private property. The new owners have posted that section from October 1 to January 31 for hunting seasons. They have also added a “No Trespassing” sign.
- Pat Childs shared a few personal stories about hunting safety and understanding where hunters are coming from—they do not want to mistake a person for an animal or have a bullet go astray while a hiker is on the path. She also shared safety tips for hikers during hunting season.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.

The next meeting will be held at the Susquehannock Lodge at 5:00pm on March 8, 2025

Meeting minutes taken and submitted by Lori Szymanik