

JANUARY 2025 SUSQUEHANNOCK TRAIL CLUB MINUTES

The January 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 24 members in attendance: Wanda Shirk, John Zimmer, Bill Boyd, Lois Morey, Gary Russell, Paul Fedalen, Elizabeth Kapoor, Penny Weinhold, Curt Weinhold, Daniel E. Holmes, Wayne Baumann, David C. Hajzus, Susie Gribble, Jayne K. Fitzgerald, Gary Buchanan, Janet Smith, Jan Halter, Larry Holtzapple, Ron Heath, Barb Miller, Angela Jackson, Carol Szymanik, Lori Szymanik, Aniela Oliver.

There were also 3 guests present: Nate Confer (Recreational Forester, Susquehannock State Forest) and Becky and Drew Chapell (Clear to Ride).

President Wanda Shirk called the meeting to order at 1:00. December minutes were read. John Zimmer made a motion to accept the minutes. Wayne Baumann seconded the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT by Steve Erway:

A full treasurer's report will be given at the February Meeting.

TRAILS REPORT by Bill Boyd:

- Larry has been working on the East Fork Trail—connector trail for STS.
- Joe Allis has been clearing and grooming cross country ski trails at Cherry Springs.
- Proposed future shelters: between Spook Hollow Shelter and Scoville Shelter, bottom of Morgan Hollow, and Mile 1.
- There will be a re-route next to Footbridge Camp Lane. The trail will follow the stream through a hemlock forest instead of the muddy camp road.
- Members discussed how to get across the creek at Williams Farm due to the bridge needing to be replaced. This bridge is on private property. Larry Holtzapple plans to talk to the owner.
- Other bridges that need repaired/built on the STS: Cross Fork Creek at mile 19, Stony Run at mile 65, Yochum Run (ideal tree nearby), Porter Branch at mile 44.

NEW MEMBERS by Lois Morey:

- Hannah Morey, Wellsboro, PA

CIRCUIT HIKER REPORT by Lori Szymanik:

- 1335 Paul Iampietro
- 1336 Jacqueline S. Iampietro

OLD BUSINESS:

- Eight hikers attended the First Day hike at Lyman Run State Park
- A few members attended the First Day hike with Pat Childs along the WAG trail. It follows the Genesee River. Hikers enjoyed seeing beaver dams and gnawed on trees. They also spotted a couple bald eagles.
- Other members went on First Day hike in Sinnemahoning State Park.

NEW BUSINESS:

- There is an upcoming hike on January 18th, 2025 with Larry Holtzapple from Junction Road to EFT to RR Grade Trail. It is 4 miles and mostly downhill.
- Nate Confer, the recreation forester from Susquehannock State Forest shared some news.
 - A recreation forester has been hired for motorized recreation as well as a new forest technician.
 - A peak has recently been officially named Stony Peak through USGS—anyone can name a peak if it is not yet named. Stony Peak can be seen from Cherry Springs Vista—its due south between Junction and Windfall Roads. A new trail, Stony Creek Trail, between Green Hollow and Bachman Hollow is being built. A map will be created for Stony Creek Trail—a shared use trail with red blazes. This will be a great short hike for Cherry Springs visitors and a fantastic spot for stargazing. It will include a primitive campsite. The campsite is not at peak, but it will be on the log landing on the way. Trailhead signs are already placed.
 - Work has been done on Billy Lewis area trails and around Commissioner Run area.
 - Susquehannock State Forests maps will soon be undergoing editing and re-printing. QR codes will be added to maps so that people can get maps on their cell phones. Please let Nate Confer know about edits that need to be added to the STS map.
 - Susquehannock State Forest is working with Kettle Creek Watershed Association to put a cable bridge across Hammersley Fork. They are waiting on a transfer of property to the State. A parking lot will be built at the crossing.
- Becky Chapell from Clear to Ride shared that they logged 700 hours of volunteer work on shared use trails. They offered to help with packing in materials and tools via horseback. They asked to temporarily use a small portion of our trail near Splash Dam Hollow since their trail is currently blocked by a beaver dam. it was agreed upon to share that portion til the beaver dams are gone.

- The February Frolic has been moved to March and will be called the Winter Frolic. It will take place at the Susquehannock Lodge at 5:00 pm on March 8, 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.

The next meeting will be held at the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum at 12:00pm on February 8, 2025

Meeting minutes taken and submitted by Lori Szymanik