

1 **New Jersey Appalachian Trail Local Management Committee**

2 **Planning Meeting Minutes**

3 **July 25, 2005**

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5 Meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, Gene Giordano at 5:45 p.m. at the N. J. DEP North
6 Region Headquarters in Franklin, N. J.

7
8 Attending: Gene Giordano, Larry Wheelock, Jill Arbuckle, Robert Sickley III, James Gregoire, Ernest
9 Kabert, John Keator, Steven Ellis, Kenneth Predmore, Wes Powers, Bruce Gregoire, Alex Rigney
10

11 **Minutes of the March 7, 2005 meeting:**

12 Approved as is.
13

14 **Old Business:**

15 *Vernon Puncheon/Bridge Project:*

16 Materials have been ordered for the puncheon and utility poles located at Wawayanda for the Bridgework.
17 Arrangements for the delivery to the work site was discussed. The sleepers for the puncheon will be cut
18 near the end of August in preparation for the airlift into the site. The planking will be delivered about
19 August 1 to Franklin facility. There was some discussion about what to do with the old puncheon
20 material. It is not treated lumber so some though went into leaving the material out of site to deteriorate in
21 it's own time. It was also agreed that there are ways to drive a Mason truck into some of the areas where
22 the material could be loaded and taken out.

23 Bob Sickley indicated that the Mid-Atlantic crew leaders would be inspecting the project site between
24 August 23 and 26th. The camp site, (to the west of the creek), is accessible by vehicle from Maple Grange
25 Road. Crew is scheduled to work the bridge site on October 6 - 10. The West Hudson Crew will be
26 working the puncheon on October 15, 16, 22 and 23.

27 *Dunnfield Bridge Replacement:*

28 Gene Giordano updated the Committee on the meeting held with the NJ DOT reps, Bob Gray, Karen Lutz
29 and Committee members to discuss the replacement of the bridge. He reported that there was a positive
30 reception to the idea of helping with the project and that Bob Gray sent a follow up letter to
31 Commissioner Letiere requesting assistance in replacing or repairing the bridge. Since we have not heard
32 back from them Gene indicated that he would inquire with Gray as to next steps. Concern was expressed
33 about the current state of the failed bridge and that it remains in use in spite of the closed signs on it. Ernie
34 Kabert said that he has correctional department volunteers available to pull it out, but it was pointed out
35 that he should make sure this is cleared with the DOT. Gene indicated that he'd contact Bob Gray on this.

36 *Sanitation:*

37 Further discussion was held on the sanitation issues at the overnight facilities. It was suggested that some
38 shelters be closed, some relocated and that a professional engineer should assess each site to determine,
39 with the current standards of latrine design, if the sites could be brought up to State mandated standards. It
40 was suggested again that Dr. Jeff Marion be consulted on these site needs. It was suggest that an all new
41 concept may be needed. Gene asked that we concentrate on getting one or two done in order to get this
42 project started. It was agreed that the Wawayanda Shelter has promise since it is close enough to
43 accessable woods roads to make a Clivus location possible.
44

45 **New Business:**

46 *Open Space Management:*

47 There was some discussion about the status of the SUP for Stephens on route 284 in Sussex. It was
48 determined that the permit is not worth renewing since Mr. Stephens has been unwilling to fulfill most of
49 the agreed to responsibilities and has to be begged to complete his obligation to mow the Treadway. Gene
50 pointed out that he intends to develop a maintenance team which can handle problems not easily done by
51 individuals and that this team could austendibly take care of the clearing which Stephens does now, so
52 that if the agreement is not renewed we should have a resource to fall back on.

53 In regard to the Ferguson dog problem it was agreed to leave this to local law enforcement.

54
55 The next meeting was set for Monday, October 24th at 5:30 PM.