

New York – New Jersey Trails Council Meeting

Thursday August 2, 2007

The Council was called to order at 6:30PM

Attending were

Estelle Anderson, Bob Boysen, Jim Canfield, Chris Connolly Bob Cohen, Ellen Cronan, Jane Daniels, Walt Daniels David Day, Monica Day, Jack Driller, Jim Gebhard, Mathew Giltner, Joe Gindoff, Gene Giordano, Sue Godar, Peter Heckler, Bob Jonas, Mary Ellen Kazar, Bob Marshall, Pat O'Connor, Glenn Oleksak, Sandy Parr, Trudy Schneider, Manny Silberberg, Ollie Simposn, Ike Siskind, Andrew Steever, Denise Vitale, Larry Wheelock, Ruby Logan Watson

Introductions

Andrew Steever, Intern developing *Trails Structures Guide*
Mathew Giltner, Supervisor Farny Highlands in Central Jersey

Announcements

Larry Wheelock noted the Trails Chair reports are due now; Supervisors reports are past due.

The new Harriman, **Bear Mountain maps** are in. Larry reminded everyone that the Supervisors and Trail Chief in Harriman receive a complimentary map; all other received a 20% discount.

Memo from Heidi Adami on the **USDA Invasive Plant Survey 2007**

Peter Heckler advised the group that 2 **branding irons** have been purchased with TC logo to be used on wooden bridges. The irons are best used with a small propane torch, make sure to follow instructions.

The NJ Search & Rescue have donated **first aid kits**, leftover from the Ramapo 2007 conference, to the TC, for use by trail crews.

Approval of minutes

Moved by Ike Siskind, seconded by Jack Driller, approved unanimously

Additions to the agenda

None

Committee reports

Conservation and Advocacy- Brenda Holzinger provided a C&A summary highlights included:

- Conservation, SRT- anticipate transfer of **Graham Fire Tower** to NYS by end of August 2007
- Trail support, NY, HT (W oH)- **Bellvale Cluster** sub division project. Assistance will be needed at public hearings, letter writing and email campaigns
- Trail support, NJ, IBT- approval for **Iron Belt Trail**; Wayawanda approval expected by the end of August 2007
- Advocacy, NY, LP-Brenda has made contact with the Long Path hiking committee to secure national scenic feasibility study status for **LP in NY**.
- Advocacy, NJ, **Funding for Open Space**-voters will have ballots November 2007 and 2008

Trail approvals

1. **Shawangunk Ridge Trail connector to DEC parking-** Larry Wheelock initiated discussion on the 0.8-mile trail to connect the SRT to a DEC parking area on the Roosa Gap – Summitville Road. Jakob Franke worked with a DEC officer to develop a trail route using the Universal Trail Assessment Process resulting in a trail design to the latest standards.

The Council unanimously approved.

2. **AT Relocation at the Pioneers Shelter-** Ollie Simpson proposed the location of this trail located in Dutchess County NY just below Cat Rocks to eliminate erosion. The trail will be doubled in length, with interesting rock formations.

Already received verbal approval from the National Park Service and the ATC.

The Council unanimously approved

New Business

1. Warren Co. Morris Canal Greenway Committee- **Greenway Trail-** Bob Boysen

The trail will eventually be 33 miles long. Currently the county owns 11 miles. The first trail will be 1.5 miles in length, be multi use and a maintainer has already been identified.

Discussion ensued on what impact the Morris County Historical Society may have on the trail.

Bob is recommending to the Board of Directors and then the Delegates that the Morris Co. Greenway Committee become a Maintaining/Affiliated member of the TC and that the TC will maintain the 1.5-mile trail.

The Council unanimously approved

2. Bob Boysen reviewed the **Trail Inventory Summary for the West Jersey Region.**

Of the 300 miles of trails; the TC maintains 228 trails.

Old Business

1. Review of the **Trails Structures Guide-** Andrew Steever, a graduate student at Pratt is putting together the guidebook.

The goals for the manual include:

- Clear, concise, and easy to understand by the novice
- Unified in content and format
- Integrated in information
- Expandable, a living document

Andrew noted that there will be a chapter or module for each type of structure.

Structures to included but not are limited to kiosks, gates, privies, signage, register boxes, bridges

These modules will be removable from the main book.

Comments and questions from the Council were entertained.

The group recommended that a table of contents be routed to the Council for review.

Larry would like the Council to be contributors and reviewers for the Guide.

Email Andrew your comments, agsteever@gmail.com.

Peter Heckler adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM