

**OAKLAND COUNTY
TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING**

February 23, 2005

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kristen Myer at 9:06 a.m. in the commission room of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission's administration building.

PRESENT:

Marge Gatliff, Kristen Wiltfang, Jean Shiloff, Todd Scott, Lois Golden, Larry Falardeau, Kristen Myers, Sue Julian, Karis Floyd, Dave Burley, Merle Richmond, Brian Marzolf, Jeff Edwards, Triscia Pilchowski, Chris Doozan, Rich Sulla, Deanna McGee, Greg Johnson.

MINUTES:

Moved by Todd Scott, supported by Sue Julian, to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2005 meeting as submitted. The motion passed on voice vote.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

- It was requested that a legislative update be added to the agenda.
The addition was inserted between item 7 and 8. This addition was approved on voice vote.

NOTE:

Todd Scott reported that when the court case regarding properties obtained through foreclosure having the mineral rights improperly severed is determined, some trail funding could be jeopardized.

TRAIL NETWORK UPDATE:

- Paint Creek Trail: Kristen Myers reported that they are planning a National Trail Day event "Meet Us In The Middle" on June 4.
Paint Creek is acquiring land to extending the North end of the trail by 1/3 mile.
- The Polly Ann Trail is working on a Nation Trail Day event.
Polly Ann Trail has a new website at www.pollyantrailway.org .
The Orion Township Board has approved a 1-mile utility corridor.
- The Clinton River Trail is sponsoring a National Trail Day event on June 4.
- The West Bloomfield Trail has experienced heavy use this winter.
- Huron Valley Trail is developing their request for proposals (RFP) for the engineering services for their trail extension. Any trail with previous RFP'S for engineering is asked to share the documents with Chris Doozan.
- Woodward Corridor Trail has been working with Oakland County Planning and Parks on a proposal for trail opportunities for southeast Oakland County.

PRESENTATION BY GREG JOHNSON OF MDOT

Greg Johnson gave an overview of MDOT's first non-motorized transportation advisory committee and their purpose. The committee has participants from Wayne, Oakland, and Saint Clair Counties.

They are currently developing their mission and already have several goals: 1) to develop a policy regarding bridges and trail crossings of MDOT roads; 2) to make the I-275 trail more viable with up-to-date standards; 3) to improve the regions trail connections and establish on-road cycling standards; and 4) to consider complying with

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SEMCOG's request to include the additional southeastern counties in this committee/study.

This committee meets quarterly.

CLARIFICATION REQUESTED LETTER TO CFSEM

It was clarified that the CFSEM letter is to be to thank them for their due consideration of grant extensions in the past and appreciation of their cooperation in grant implementations.

TRAIL NETWORK COORDINATOR REPORT

Trail Network Coordinator Marge Gatliff gave a brief overview of the last months activities and materials available, including the following:

- Marge has the following materials available for members use: "Risk & Trails" Manual, MSU Paint Creek Study Report, the MSI resource manual, the Transportation Summit Report, and the CFSEM Wayfinding Workshop Resource Binder.
- OTAC posted notes are available to use as handouts at events.
- Lois Golden requested a list of potential incentives to be used when trying to solicit sponsors for the reprinting of maps and other OTAC items.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- ◆ Todd Scott has contacted Senator Bishop regarding the development of a Michigan Trailways Pass. Todd will forward to Marge any information he has regarding how a trail can qualify as a Michigan Trailway.

BARRY CULLHAM, RAILS TO TRAILS CONSERVANCE

Mr. Cullhan gave an overview of the Michigan annual bicycle tour. A brochure was made available for all attendees. The route for the event is being finalized and a news release will be submitted in the next month or so to stimulate interest.

Please contact Mr. Cullham with any information you have regarding construction along the route, any potential water stops and/or any additional information that should be included on the final map of the route.

OTHER BUSINESS/COMMENTS

- Merle Richmond of the Oakland County Equestrians shared the article "Take Two Hikes and Call Me In The Morning" and referenced President Bush's favorable comments regarding trails. She also announced the development of a new equestrian group in Oakland County.
- Larry Falardeau highlighted an article by L. Brook Patterson and trail usage for the Oakland County "Steps" program.
- Todd Scott reported that SEMCOG is currently engaging in a future needs assessment.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be **9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 23, 2005** in the commission room of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation administration building.

sjb, Oakland County Parks and Recreation