

**OAKLAND COUNTY
TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING**

March 23, 2005

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kristen Myers 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, Merle Richmond, Ralph Richard, Christine Vogt, Bruce Austin, Robert Golda, Barry Culham, Karen Tauriainen, Sue Nyquist, Mindy Milos-Dale, Dot LaLone, David Bulley, Ryan Dividock, Sharon Greene, Dan Stencil, Deanna Magee,

MINUTES:

Moved by Todd Scott, supported by Dot Lalone, to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2005 meeting as submitted. The motion passed on voice vote.

TRAIL NETWORK UPDATE:

- The Clinton River Trail reported that their resurfacing project is proceeding as planned. An application has been submitted by Rochester to realign the trail near the Clinton River.

The question was raised as to how mileage markers and northeasterly and southwesterly indicators on trails should be shown—should it be local trail distances etc. or a countywide notification of mileage/direction. Larry Falardeau of Oakland County Planning and Development noted that it is best if each trail authority only indicates their own mileage. OTAC group to decide which direction to go.

The OTAC Oak Routes Design is available to be included on signage, if desired. It will be e-mailed by Marge Gatliff to members.

- The West Bloomfield Trail's signage is approximately 13 years old and needs to be updated. An effort will be made to coordinate their signage with the OTAC network signage recommendations.
- The Headwaters Trail will have a canoe race on June 4th. It will start in Holly at Waterworks Park at 9:00 a.m. Contact Dot Lalone for additional information at 248-625-7731.
- Woodward Corridor Trail has been working with Oakland County Planning and Parks on a proposal for trail opportunities for southeast Oakland County.

STONY CREEK CORRIDOR ACQUISITION – MINDY MILOS-DALE

Ms Milos-Dale gave an overview of the proposal for this acquisition which is being submitted for a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grant and requested a letter of support from OTAC.

It was Moved by Lois Golden and seconded by Larry Falardeau to send a letter supporting this acquisition grant application. The motion passed on voice vote.

PRESENTATION BY CHRISTINE VOGT, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSIGY.

Christine Vogt gave a presentation on the user survey done in 2004 by MSU at the Paint Creek Trail. She detailed the method used to quantify the users of this trail. The data indicated who used the trail, what the type of use it was, and the number of users.

This presentation and survey, as well others, are available at www.prr.msu.edu/trails and www.carrs.msu.edu/trails.

TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes

March 23, 2005

REVISED MISSION STATEMENT AND BY-LAWS

The OTAC sub-committee reviewing the goals and objectives, and presented a draft of the revised mission statement and by-laws. Changes/additions to the new goals and objectives were offered and the committee will include them in the final draft. Marge Gatliff requested that all members e-mail their comments and suggestions to her for inclusion and a new draft will be presented at the next OTAC meeting.

The by-laws will only be reviewed on an annual bases. They were last reviewed and updated on July 28, 2004, and are not yet due for review.

TRAIL NETWORK COORDINATOR REPORT

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

- The MRPA trail committee meeting is scheduled for April 1 at Addison Oaks. Anyone wanting to participate in the hike after the meeting (10:00 a.m.) is to contact Marge.
- All spring events should be e-mailed to Marge for inclusion in the OCP&R calendar.
- National Trails Day Events should also be e-mailed to Marge.
- It was ask that all members help to distribute letters to businesses for sponsorship of the next printing. See Marge for more information.
- Marge updated members on the Appreciation Day Events, Count Your Steps Program, Michigander events planned, the Walk Michigan Walk Oakland Program, and the International Trails Greenways Conference Information.
- The following materials were made available at the meeting: Clinton River Trail Maps, Lifetrail manual, Clinton and Huron River Maps, Revised Goals and Objectives.
- The 3rd annual Trails Summit will be on Thursday, September 8 at West Bloomfield Community Center.

OTHER BUSINESS/COMMENTS

- Todd Scott reported that the MMBA.org web site has won an award for excellence.
- Merle Richmond of the Oakland County Equestrians shared an article regarding the trail from Yankeetown on the Golf of Mexico to Palatka, Florida. The trail passes over Interstate 75, and a six-lane highway just south of Ocala National Forest. It was successfully completed and provides access to all trail users.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be **9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 27, 2005** in the commission room of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation administration building.

sjb, Oakland County Parks and Recreation