

**OAKLAND COUNTY
TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING**

April 27, 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, Kristen Myers, Sue Nyquist, Dave Burley, Ralph Richard, Merle Richmond, Rich Sulla, Bruce Austin, Karen Tauriainen, Dot LaLone, Robert Golda, Deanna Magee, Dan Stencil, Linda Bloch, Sharon Greene, Mat Gaberty.

MINUTES:

Dave Burley's name, spelled incorrectly in the 3-23-05 minutes, is to be corrected.

Moved by Ralph Richard, supported by Dot LaLone, to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2005 meeting as corrected. The motion passed on voice vote.

TRAIL NETWORK UPDATE:

- **Paint Creek Trail** Kristen Myers reported that the Paint Creek is changing their method of patrolling the trail. Their security patrol will be split with 1/2 of the duties being contracted with the Oakland County Sheriff's Department and the other half being done by their own patrol persons.
On National Trails Day, they will be hosting a hiking event, with a ribbon cutting and a recognition ceremony. Information regarding the event will be e-mailed to Marge Gatliff.
- The **Clinton River Trail** reported that portions of the trail, resurfaced in the fall, are being re-compacted. The new bridge now has the railings and the project is proceeding as scheduled.
Currently they are designing brochure boxes that will be used on the trail.
- **West Bloomfield Trail** has received requests from Sylvan Lake for contractors interested in trail resurfacing. Contact John Martin or Fran Davis with names of interested contractors. (Kristen M will forward her list.)
- **Lakes Community Trail** is working on the Nation Trails Day "Strut Your Mutt" event they are co-hosting with Oakland County Parks and Recreation.
- Dot Lalone reported that the **Headwaters Trail** has been working with Consumers Energy on right-of-ways available for trail use. A corridor extending south to the Highland, Milford, and White Lake area is very likely.
A trail head is being developed using Waterworks Park. The Village will take over the building with Headwaters Trail entering into a 5-year lease.
A lot of interest has been shown for the canoe event they are planning.
A beautification planting at Waterworks Park is scheduled.
The August fund raising horse ride event has not been able to secure insurance for the event. Other options are being explored.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Marge Gatliff reviewed the revised goals and objectives and distributed a copy to members. All agreed on the priorities and goals set. Minor revisions will be made and the 2005 OTAC Goals and Objectives e-mailed to members.

Marge thanked Dot LaLone, Lois Golden, Larry Falardeau and Kristen Myers for serving on this committee.

It was moved by Dot LaLone, seconded by David Burley to accept the 2005 Goals and Objectives as amended. The motion passed on voice vote.

TRAIL NETWORK COORDINATOR REPORT

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

- ◆ An MRPA Trails Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, May 6, at Macomb County Parks and Recreation.

TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes

April 27, 2005

- ◆ If anyone is interested in being a presenter at the MRPA 2006 Conference, contact Marge for further information.
- ◆ The "Strut Your Mutt" event will begin in Wixom at 10:30 a.m. go to the Lyon Oaks Dog Park. Prizes will be given for best dog costume and best trick. The same event will be held at 2:30 p.m. at the Orion Oaks Dog Park.
- ◆ Only one box remains of the OTAC Trail Maps produced last fall. Funds are needed for a reprint. Some donations and commitments have been made, but not enough for a total reprint. Ralph Richard instructed Marge Gatliff to place an order. Commitments of contributions were received from Ralph Richard, Dave Burley, Kristen Myers, and Deanna McGee.
- ◆ A sub committee was formed to explore methods of obtaining funds for activities of OTAC now and in the future. Serving on the committee are Dave Burley, Dot Lalone, Kristen Meyer, Louis Golden, Kristen Wiltfang, Larry Falardeau, and Marge Gatliff. Options of charging for maps, OTAC member contribution, sponsors, etc. were discussed. A Meeting is scheduled on May 11 at 2:00 p.m.
- ◆ Marge thanked the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission and Ralph Richard for their support of the "Count Your Steps Program."
- ◆ "Walk Michigan/Walk Oakland" – A reminder that registrants become eligible to walk the Mackinaw Bridge with the governor and have a free hotel/motel stay. Marge has entry slips for walkers that walk a minimum of 1 mile between May 1 and August 1, 2005. The entry slips can be distributed at any event.
- ◆ Meetings have been held with Waterford, White Lake, Highland, and the DNR encourage a cooperative effort to join as a group and establish an east/west trail.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

An e-mail from Todd Scott's was read, warning of congressional efforts to open state park lands to anyone 60-years old and older, with a disability, enabling them to ride their ATVs in the parks. All members are encouraged to write their congressional representatives to oppose this new wide-open exception.

OTHER BUSINESS/COMMENTS

- National Trail Day events were reviewed with a reminder to forward them to Marge so they can be included in an OCPR publication.
- Marge requested ideas for future OTAC handouts.
- Merle Richmond reported on the scheduled May 7 horse ride and presented the April 12 Oakland Press article "Oakland's horse enthusiasts saddle up."
- Lois Golden will chair the next meeting, as Kristen Myers is unavailable.
- The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be **9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 25, 2005** in the commission room of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation administration building.

sjb, Oakland County Parks and Recreation