

**OAKLAND COUNTY
TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
August 25, 2004**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dan Navarre at 9:10 a.m. in the commission room of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission's administration building.

PRESENT:

Marge Gatliff, Kristen Wiltfang, Dan Duncan, Dot Lalone, Todd Scott, Lois Golden, Dan Stencil, Joe Figa, Mat Gaberty, Dan Navarre, Rob Golda, Jim Keglovitz, Dot LaLone, Merle Richmond, Todd Scott, Linda Bloch, Mike Searing, Lisa Grost

MINUTES:

Moved by Dan Duncan, supported by Dot Lalone, to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2004 meeting as submitted. The motion passed on voice vote.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

- Risa Wilkerson, speaker from the Governor's Council on Physical fitness, is unable to attend the meeting and has been removed from the agenda. Marge Gatliff will inquire about rescheduling.
- Sargent Searing requested the opportunity to address Council on behalf of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department.

It was moved by Dot LaLone, seconded by Dan Duncan that the agenda be approved as amended.

OAKLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT SERVICES

Sargent Searing reported on the current year's deputy services for trails and what policy changes there will be.

In 2005 the Sheriff's Department will require a contract for their services, which shall include the following provisions:

- Services will be charged on an hourly basis (\$16.20 per hour, per officer) with a two officer, two-hour minimum.
- The mounted patrol will require ½ hour set-up and ½ hour after ending the patrol, adding 1 paid hour to each officer's fee. (2-hour minimum plus 1 hour set-up/break down)
- The bike patrol requires no set-up/break down time.
- Contact Sargent Searing in advance to contract a Sheriff's Department patrol.

TRAIL NETWORK UPDATE:

- There was minimal news to be reported. All trails are busy during this season and are experiencing consistent use.
- The Headwaters Trail sponsored a two-day clean up of the Clinton River to removed downed trees, etc. in the river. They also are meeting with areas that have power-houses/water works. They are seeking information to help plan for improvements to their water facility. Mrs. Lalone also reported that the annual Carrie Nation Festival will be held on September 11 and 12 of this year.
- The Woodward Corridor Trail still does not have a representative attending OTAC meetings. Todd Scott will explore the possibility of a new representative being appointed.
- The Polly Ann Trail has received a conditional approval from the Village of Oxford for their new bridge. Lois Golden offered thanks for the letters of support from Oakland County Parks and Recreation and OTAC. The Polly Ann Trail will now proceed with the MDOT bidding process, etc.

TRAIL NETWORK COORDINATOR REPORT

- "The Halloween Fun Run will be Saturday, October 23, 2004 at Lyon Oaks County Park. Please help to promote this event among the trail user groups.

- Thursday, September 9, 2004 from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. will be the Oakland County Trails Summit. Marge E-mailed the membership the flyer for this event. There will be a lunch provided. Please notify her if you are able to attend.
- Addison Oaks County Park is dedicating the newly paved 2.5-mile segment of trail on Saturday, August 28, at 10:00 a.m.
- Bids for the trail and bike brochures/maps have been received. After the brochure is proofed and the contract awarded, the brochures will be ordered. Marge anticipates they will be received 2 to 3 weeks after the order is submitted. The next time brochures are published, we hope to have a sponsor to help defray some of the cost.
- There are 1,000 more equestrian maps available due to an error in the original printing. Please contact Marge if you need additional maps.
- A wheelchair has been added to the Oakland County Trail Network logo. Kristen Wiltfang passed the new logo around the attendees.
- The MRPA trails committee was approved by the MRPA membership. Anita T will be the chairman and Marge has been nominated as the co-chair.
- The MSU study of the Paint Creek Trail is still underway and will continue until the end of September.
- Contact Marge Gatliff to add events or programs to the fall/winter flyers/website.
- If OTAC members have any ideas or information that could be incorporated into the "Adopt a Trail" program, please contact Marge.
- There is a new OTAC member list available. Marge will E-mail the list to members.
- As requested, on behalf of OTAC, Marge submitted a letter of support for the Polly Ann Trail's bridge in the Village of Oxford, and a letter of appreciation was submitted to the Oakland County Sheriffs Division.
- A National Kidney foundation event will be held at Lyon Oaks County Park on September 12.

MASTER PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

The Master Plan subcommittee will meet next in October.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dan Navarre reported that there is no change in the legislative position on TEA 21 funds. Currently there is a 60-day extension past the one-year expiration date.

OTHER BUSINESS/COMMENTS

- Dan Stencil requested that OTAC review the goals and objectives of the committee annually. Sue Ball will E-mail them to members for review. At the October 27, 2004 OTAC meeting, there will be a discussion and consideration of any revisions requested.
- Todd Scott reported that there will be 57 acres for recreational use lost with the re-alignment of Williams Lake Road. The MMBA is looking at the power line right-of-way (ITC easement) for establishing a trail to connect Proud Lake Recreation area with the Highland Recreation area.
- Merle Richmond gave an equestrian up-date on the Oakland County Equestrians. She reported that the Oakland County equestrian trail map is complete and available, contact Merle or Marge for maps. Merle distributed copies of trail signs from a Florida Equestrian subdivision, which demonstrates the type of signs that could be posted in our community. She sited that Michigan law also gives equestrians the right of way when they are on a roadway. Merle is also giving presentations to promote equestrian goals. She is hoping that new bridge crossings of roads will be equestrian friendly.
- Kristen Wiltfang requested that OTAC members report the following data as it applies to their trail: width, surface type, user types, length, difficulty year established.
- Jim Keglovitz of Oakland County Planning and Economic reported that the National Area Advisory Group is developing a local group. They are modeling themselves after OTAC and hope to promote local

coordination, collaboration and communicate the message of what a good investment recreation facilities and green space are for residence.

RISA WILKERSON, GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON PHYSICAL FITNESS

Ms Wilkerson gave a presentation on the Michigan Governor's Council on Physical Fitness (MGCOPF) goals and objectives. She demonstrated how trails can partner with MGCOPF to deliver the message of how a healthy life style can benefit Michigan's population. As the connection of trails remains a goal of OTAC, the health connection with trails can also be conveyed.

"Michigan on the Move" and "Michigan Steps Up" are initiatives working to help communities across our state make positive lifestyle changes to ensure better health for all of our citizens. Efforts are being made to partner with public health, businesses, schools, faith-based organizations, and health care providers. Resource contacts and materials were made available with hands out at the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be **9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 27, 2004** in the commission room of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation administration building. **There will be no September OTAC Meeting** due to the September County Summit.

sjb, Oakland County Parks and Recreation