

Thompson Trails Committee MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING Monday, June 14, 2021, 7:00 pm

In attendance: Karen Durlach, John Kochinskas, Mike Lajeunesse, Brian Loffredo, David Ostrowski, Paul Provost; LyAnn Graff, TLGV; Rec. Dir. Lesley Munshower;

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Brian moderated.

John made a MOTION, seconded by David, to accept minutes of April 5, 2021. All in favor.

Correspondence:

- email from RiMaConn Relay Race organizers asking for help finding parking space and looking for volunteers on the day of, Saturday, August 28
- follow-up phone & email contact from P&W in answer to our 2017 query about the section of railbed between Dudley and Southbridge.
- response to Tyra's letters & emails to new owners of the property where the chamber is located was that they were not interested in public access, any easement or sale of the site

Finances: Balance available 6/14/21: \$10,748.14

Scout Project: John reported that Kaitlin Larrson (of Girl Scout Troop 1066) is still in the planning stages. Brian will share some images of storyboards and benches he saw.

Trailer/Mower Status: Orange siding not available. Since we are next in line for production, we are proceeding with white. Consensus was to begin an online fundraiser for the mower. Paul & Karen will check for updated price at Runnings so we have a target dollar figure.

T Shirts: few orange shirts left, only green in some sizes

John made a MOTION, seconded by Mike, to spend up to \$1000 for the orange wicking shirts, half long- and half short-sleeved.

Events:

- **CT Trails Day:** Low attendance attributed to CFPA registration process, late and lacking publicity and weather. John lead a 3-mile paddle with 3 participants. Train Wreck park event had more interpreters than participants, 2 registered plus some hikers and bikers coming through.
- **Walktober:** Events Sept. 18-Oct.21. Deadline to be included in printed book is June 15. John will submit a Tri State Marker hike Oct. 16, to include new culvert side trail.
- **Turkey Trot Nov. 14, 2021:** West Thompson Dam booked. Race Wire confirmed. Registration open July 1. "Save-the Date" cards printed for distribution. Sponsor letters revised with modified tiers. Sponsors now get a Yard Sign to be posted at the race course. Sponsors must be at least \$250 to get logo on the T-shirts. Lesley & Brian to confirm with Centerville Bank as Title Sponsor. Sponsor wanted for Kid's Fun Run. Next meeting will be in mid-July.
- **RiMaConn Relay Race** Saturday, August 28

Trail updates:

- Paul is in the process of marking/blazing the new side trail off the tri State Marker Loop Trail to access the stone culvert.
- *Karen made a MOTION, seconded by John, to add \$100 to the allocated amount for the port-o-potty*

- Paul is revising the signs on the ALSPT kiosks. ***Mike made a MOTION, seconded by John, to spend up to \$300 to print and laminate updated ALT & Train Wreck site information for the kiosks.***
- THS has undertaken the project of replicating and installing the sign for the East Thompson Train Station.
- Paul is handling initial negotiations for recreating the turntable

Social Media/PR/maps

- Z-fold map expected in 4-5 weeks
- Lesley will reprint train Wreck flyers & maps using Trails paper supply
- Send John any items to post

Reports from Neighboring Towns

- Putnam met May 25. Next meeting is July 27
- TLGV, Thompson Rec. & TEEG received an Eastern Chamber grant for a middle school Youth Hiking Program on the Air Line Trail. Pilot program runs 2 weeks with 8 campers who will be hiking through Thompson, Putnam, Pomfret, through Hampton, down to Lebanon, with educational components added.

Motion & second to adjourn. Meeting adjourned 8:46 p.m.

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING: Monday, August 2, 2021, 7:00 p.m.