

MINUTES
WARRINGTON TOWNSHIP BIKE AND HIKE TRAILS COMMITTEE
852 Easton Road
Warrington, PA 18976

May 17, 2017, 7:30 P.M.

Committee Attendees: Gerry Sapers, Aaron Mulder, Sharon Kaszan, Ira Meyers, Kay Fairs, Bernadette Marron

Liaison Attendees: Roy Rieder, Director of Planning and Special Projects and Zoning Officer, Warrington Township; Fred Gaines, Vice Chair, Warrington Township Board of Supervisors

Guests: Elizabeth Potash and Scott Vogin

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Gerry asked the two guests, who had come to express interest in joining the Bike and Hike Committee, to introduce themselves.

- Liz Potash has been a resident of Warrington for 10 years. She has a career in health and physical education and maintains a very active lifestyle. She is very interested in working on the Committee but recognizes that she is not sure how much time she will have to devote to Committee work. In fairness, therefore, she says she would be happy to stand aside if others express greater commitment.
- Scott Vogin has lived in Warrington since 2010. He is very involved in outdoor activities such as fishing, hiking, biking, and Rails to Trails. He is also a referee for youth sports and has therefore received all the necessary background checks required for working with children. He has a very flexible schedule and works as a logistical planner on large-scale events.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Trail Development:

- New Trail Development:
 - Link from Power Line trail to light at Street Road and Phillips Avenue:
 - i. Roy reported that the owner of the property adjacent to the bridge has made a verbal agreement with the Township to sell the strip of land required for the trail link for an agreed-upon price.
 - ii. The developer of the corner property at Street and Phillips has submitted his development plan, which should receive approval from the Planning Commission. Roy will recommend that approval of the building permit be conditional upon the developer constructing the sidewalk that will complete the trail link.

b. Open Space Plan Presentation by Ann Toole, Toole Recreation Planning, and Ryan Walker, a planner with the Natural Lands Trust.

- The Open Space Plan for Warrington Township is being drafted.
 - The themes are: Warrington is a secret premium place to live; preservation of open space; park and recreational space and programming; operational excellence; safe place to walk and bike.
 - Their goal to produce a list of achievable actions along with a few visionary items.

- Trails area priority! The Committee described its current wish-list of trail projects, including extending the Bradford Dam trail to Kansas Road (currently blocked by Corps of Engineers' refusal to entertain any disturbance of wetland area), natural trails, and Old Mill Nursery on Little Neshaminy Creek.
 - A recommendation for overhauling the signage on trails and other Township property will be made by the consultants.
 - The draft is due June/July. It will be reviewed by the Open Space Task Force, by Roy and Barry Luber, and the Board of Supervisors before being offered for a period of public review. It will also be circulated to the School District and neighboring townships. They are hopeful that the plan will be adopted by the end of 2017.
- c. Earth Day, April 22: Gerry reported that it had been a very rainy day with really low attendance. The few people that stopped by the booth each took a Hiking Club flyer and membership form.
 - d. Future of the Family Campout: Sharon reported that there has been no action.
 - e. Warrington Hiking Club: A date and time was set for a "dry run" for the inaugural June 3 hike: Gerry, Sharon, Kay and Bernie will meet on Saturday, May 27 at 10:00AM at the Bradford Dam trailhead in Lower Nike Park.
 - f. New Natural Trail: The trail route needs to be finalized.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Gerry reported on a new hiking opportunity at Old Mill Farm Nursery. A discussion took place with respect to how much of the land adjacent to the creek is Township owned. Roy consulted a map and it appears that about two-thirds is Township owned.
- b. Ira announced that the date of this year's Fulton Bank/Warrington Cares Sprint Duathlon/Triathlon is to be September 10. He requested that everyone sign up to participate or volunteer if possible.
- c. Kay announced that EAC will hold its Community Service Day on May 20, meeting at Twin Oaks at 9:30AM to help with new plantings and garden clean-up.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the April 19, 2017 meeting were not available for approval. They will be submitted at the June 21 meeting along with the minutes from the May 17, 2017.

Selection of new Bike and Hike Trails Committee member: The Committee adjourned to a side room to discuss the two candidates for the one vacancy on the Committee. The meeting was informed that Scott Vogin was recommended as the new member. It was suggested that Liz Potash be asked to serve as an alternate member, pending approval by the Board of Supervisors.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, a motion to adjourn was made at 9:22 P.M. by Sharon, seconded by Aaron, and passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the Warrington Township Building.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Fairs, Secretary