

**East Bradford Township
Trails Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2022**

The East Bradford Township Trails Committee convened on Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 12:00 noon in the Township Building, 676 Copeland School Road, West Chester, PA 19380.

The agenda was posted on the website: www.eastbradford.org prior to the meeting and on the front door at the Township Building.

Committee members present:

Sheila Fleming, Chairperson, Linda Barchet, Maria Kenny, Betsey Mehl, Andrew Schaum, Jane Scriptunas, Jacob Singer, Rebecca Smith, John Spangler

Committee members absent: Jim Wakefield

Staff/Professionals present:

Rich Phifer, Director of Property & Recreation
Tenley Adams, Property & Recreation Assistant, Secretary
John Snook, Supervisor Liaison

Others in attendance: None

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Ms. Fleming.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Mr. Schaum made a motion to approve the June 23, 2022, meeting minutes, the motion seconded by Mr. Spangler, passing with all in favor. There was no meeting held in July or August.

Mr. Phifer announced that Sheila Fleming has retired from the Brandywine Conservancy after 23 years. She worked to create the Brandywine Creek Greenway initiative and was instrumental in numerous grants that have helped East Bradford and other municipalities. The Trails Committee wishes her much happiness in her retirement and looks forward to continuing to work with her on the Trails Committee.

SD# 655 – STARR FARM – 1001 Skelp Level Road

Mr. Phifer reviewed the subdivision plan for Starr Farm, the property that the Township purchased in 2020. The final plan shows the combining of lot lines between three parcels to create a 15.8-acre lot containing the existing house and barn complex. The new lot will be under conservation easement and is being sold by the township. The remaining 156 acres will be owned and conserved by the Township as publicly accessible park land. After reviewing, the Trails Committee had no comments.

MERCER'S MILL TRAIL

Mr. Phifer reported that the Mercer's Mill HOA Board has reviewed the proposed trail alignment and is willing to allow the trail to be connected to Meadow Lane. The next steps will be for the Township to hire a surveyor to survey the trail easement area and execute a deed of conveyance with the community. This way, the Township can plan to design and obtain permits for the pedestrian bridge in 2023, and in 2024 can hopefully install the pedestrian bridge and connect the Mercer's Mill Trail to the 1st West Chester Fire Company property trail easement.

PLUM RUN TRAIL SYSTEM

Mr. Phifer updated the TC on the Plum Run Trail. DEP permits have been received and he is working on the new plans to limit encroachment into the floodplain.

He has been working with WCU staff to advance the license agreement for the trail that will be on the University property.

Mr. Phifer said that he had applied for and received a grant from the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful organization which is funded by the Giant Food company. The money will be used for three information panels, covering Meadow Habitat, Watersheds, and the Plum Run Stream Restoration. He is hoping they will be installed in 2023.

SHAW'S BRIDGE PARK / BRANDYWINE WATER TRAIL

Mr. Phifer reported that the cement ramp materials for the canoe launch at Shaw's Bridge Park have been received and are awaiting installation. Public Works should have the launch fully completed in mid-to-late October.

STARR FARM PARK (WEST) TRAILS

Mr. Phifer reviewed the proposed trails for the property on the westside of Skelp Level Road. He said the township engineer recommends a crossing at the intersection of Skelp Level Road and Harmony Hill Road. The Trails Committee believes that there should also be a crossing mid-block near the parking lot as people will cross there even if there isn't one. Mr. Spangler also recommended a trail through the wooded area along Skelp Level Road as there are some very pretty areas within the woods.

Mr. Phifer said that an Eagle Scout Candidate is looking to create a trail in the western woods that will connect to the Alt-white trail along the Brandywine Trail.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: None

ADJOURN: On motion of Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Spangler, the meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm with all in favor.

NOTICE: The next meeting of the Trails Committee is scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2022, at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Tenley F. Adams
Secretary