

**East Bradford Township
Trails Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2022**

The East Bradford Township Trails Committee convened on Thursday, November 17, 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, John Spangler, Jim Wakefield.

Committee members absent: Jacob Singer, Rebecca Smith

Staff/Professionals present:

Rich Phifer, Director of Property & Recreation
Tenley Adams, Property & Recreation Assistant, Secretary

Others in attendance: Stuart Gross

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 September 22, 2022, meeting minutes, the motion seconded by Mr. Spangler, passing with all in favor. There was no meeting held in October.

STARR FARM PARK (WEST) TRAILS

Mr. Phifer provided a concept map for the trails on the west side of Skelp Level Road. He said that he has provided the map to the Brandywine Valley Archery Club for comments. The trails would connect with the Brandywine Trail. The Trails Committee made the following comments:

Ms. Fleming: A loop trail on the parcel at the corner of Skelp Level Road and Harmony Hill Road.

Ms. Mehl: Wider mown trails will hold up best if there will be equine use.

Mr. Gross: He said he is an avid mountain biker and an equestrian. He knows about the issues of trying to have both uses on the trails. In Fair Hill, MD they have separate trails for bikers and equestrian use.

He said that mountain biking is growing with many young people getting involved. Many of the local schools have mountain bike clubs/teams that are using HHNA and it is quite busy at times, making it hard for recreational riders to use the trails when they are there.

Ms. Kenny: Could there be set days for different uses on the trails.

Ms. Mehl: Careful consideration should be given when determining which uses on which trails. Site distance should be considered so that horses are not frightened by bikes coming around a bend. Trails on the east side of Skelp Level Road should be for hiking/walking and equine use only.

Mr. Spangler: A connection between the east and west side is needed for hikers and walkers.

Mr. Schaum: A mid-block crossing of Skelp Level Road is needed so that people can cross safely, as they will do it even if it isn't provided.

Mr. Phifer said that he is hoping to have feedback from the archery club for the January 2023 meeting.

BRANDYWINE CREEK WATER TRAIL UPDATES

Mr. Phifer said that the canoe launch has been completed at Shaw's Bridge Park. The work was done by the Public Works Department, and it came in under budget. He is now working with the Brandywine Conservancy for the water trail signage for that location and expects the site signage to be installed in the Spring. Mr. Spangler commented that some type of signage is needed along the creek bank as it is hard to see where the launch is from the creek. Mr. Phifer said that is part of the signage that is being planned.

Ms. Mehl asked if the Township has been in contact with the new owners of the Picnic Park and if they will allow access to the Brandywine from the park. Mr. Phifer said that the Zoning Office has been in touch with the new owners but that it is not known if they would consider allowing any form of public access.

TRAIL BLAZER RUN

Mr. Phifer said that the TBR Committee will meet at the end of this meeting to discuss potential dates for the 2023 Run, and all are welcome to attend.

MERCER'S MILL TRAIL

Mr. Phifer reported that the Board of Supervisors and the HOA agree with the trail alignment and the next step will be a survey to facilitate creation of the easement documents.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Mr. Spangler asked if a prioritization list of projects could be discussed at a future meeting.

ADJOURN: On motion of Mr. Schaum, seconded by Mr. Spangler, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm with all in favor.

NOTICE: The next meeting of the Trails Committee is scheduled for Thursday, December 22, 2022, at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Tenley F. Adams
Secretary