

**East Bradford Township
Trails Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2020**

The East Bradford Township Trails Committee convened on Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 12:00 noon. In an effort to minimize public exposure to COVID-19 and maintain social distancing, the meeting was held via Zoom teleconferencing. A public notice was published in the Daily Local News on September 28, 2020. The agenda and dial-in numbers were also posted on the Township website at <https://www.eastbradford.org/government/boards-commissions>.

Committee members present:

Betsey Mehl, Josie Parman, Andrew Schaum, John Spangler, Jim Wakefield

Committee members absent:

Sheila Fleming, Maria Kenny, Jacob Singer

Staff/Professionals present:

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

Others in attendance:

Dave Redmond

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon by Mr. Schaum.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the August 27, 2020 meeting was motioned by Mr. Wakefield, seconded by Ms. Mehl, with all in favor. No meetings in September & October.

PLUM RUN TRAIL UPDATE

Mr. Phifer reported that the Plum Run project continues on track and he provided a draft 3D rendering of the Heritage Center Area. This area will have interpretive panels for the history of the Strode's Barn along with Revolutionary War / Battle of the Brandywine information and also environmental information. The Courtyard will include a raised area with a possible sculpture – maybe a pig or pigs. The wall along Birmingham Road will be tapered to allow a view of the Strode's Mill, but still buffer from the traffic passing nearby the site.

Toll Brothers has paved the trail on the south side of Tigue Road that runs parallel to the road. The parking lot will be paved at a future date when the heavy equipment stops running through the area.

The Brandywine Red Clay Alliance has completed planting of 300 trees in the meadow area along the Plum Run as part of the stream restoration project.

2021 EVENTS OUTLOOK

Mr. Phifer noted that with the upswing of Covid-19 in recent weeks he is cautious about planning events that take considerable planning time and resources to organize. He does feel that the orienteering event can be done safely with initial instruction being done virtually in advance, and a limited number of people participating in the field at any one time. Also, the Naturalist Walks and History Hikes can be done with a maximum of 8 people safely, with all wearing masks, at minimal cost. The Trails Committee was in agreement.

Mr. Schaum suggested that the Trail Blazer Run be tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2021. Mr. Wakefield and Mr. Snook were in agreement.

BRANDYWINE CREEK GREENWAY UPDATE

Mr. Phifer reported that he had been in touch with PennDOT about the Rt. 322 Bridge over Valley Creek and they reported that while it is not in good condition, they do not have a replacement schedule at this point in time.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Old Brandywine Trail near Blue Rock Road – a new owner has purchased 195 Blue Rock Road and it was suggested that the Township work to get an actual easement across the property for the old Brandywine Trail path.

Mr. Phifer reported that West Bradford Township is in the process of updating their Open Space and Recreation Plan and that he has been appointed to the Committee working on the update since the two townships share the Brandywine Trail.

Mr. Wakefield asked if the township had to get any additional insurance coverage because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Mr. Phifer reported that the insurance carrier advised that the Township is adequately covered under its existing policy and that no additional insurance coverage was necessary.

Mr. Phifer reported that the Township has an agreement of sale for the farm that abuts Starr Farm Park. The property includes 170 acres on both sides of Skelp Level Road.

ADJOURN: On motion of Mr. Spangler, seconded by Mr. Wakefield, the meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm with all in favor.

NOTICE: The next meeting of the Trails Committee is scheduled for Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 12:00 noon with the Parks & Recreation Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Tenley F. Adams
Secretary

