

Butler Freeport Community Trail Council Meeting
Meeting Notes, April 7, 2008

In Attendance: David Corry, Fritz Emmerling, Dan Beggs, Connie Sutara, Ben Brugmans, Ray Smetana, Mark Willoughby, Art Borland, Ann Quaranta, Angelo Quaranta, Kara Knechtel, Bob Salvaggio, Bob Ingoldsby, Bob Danehy, Bobbi Skwarla, Chris Ziegler, Dave Ziegler, Patrick Reitz, Dave Adams, Skip Wagle, John Kay, Robert Walter, Jim Meyer, John Haven, Ron Bennett, Jonathan Kay

A. Announcements/President's Report

1. Patrolling the Trail

Representatives from the PA Fish & Boat Commission and PA State Game Commission attended the meeting to update us on their presence on the Trail. They will be in uniform and will be patrolling the Trail on a regular basis to enforce the rules. They have the authority to issue citations. Since the Trail is part of the Safety Zone Cooperative Program <http://www.pgc.state.pa.us/pgc/cwp/view.asp?a=513&q=168157>, the State Codes and Rules/Regulations are followed. To report a violation, please call (814) 432-3187. In your report be as specific as possible, location, date, time, name of offender (if you know them) and you must be willing to testify, if necessary. WARNING: DO NOT CONFRONT RIDERS, take photos if possible.

2. Motion made to buy 5,000 Trail brochures from Minute Man Press seconded and passed.
3. Received \$1,001.00 grant from They-working.org for 13 gates at trailheads into Butler.
4. Membership with PA Parks & Recreation will provide grant funding opportunities and networking opportunities. Chris will call about cost.
5. John Haven and Chris Ziegler walked the trail with Judge Doerr, Doug Ritson and Jim Switzer. We have partnered with Butler County Department of Community Corrections (they are all non-violent offenders ie. DUI & bad checks) in clearing the trail of trash and brush and will assist us in building bench, bulletin boards and gates when ready.
6. Ben Brugmans gave us two options for a bridge into Butler. Chris, John and Ben will meet with Mayor Stock and Kathy Kline (City Council) Tuesday about a bridge location.
7. Chris left a note for a tractor trailer driver that has been parking on the trail at Marwood. One more warning then police will be called to cite him.
8. We are participating in the Great PA Cleanup, April 12th meeting at Franklin Field, Herman Rd. 9-12:00.

B. Open Issues

1. Membership (Anne Quaranta)

A postcard invitation will be sent to past members and others inviting them to renew their membership. Membership year will be from May 1 – April 30. Motion to purchase postcards and postcards with membership card made, seconded, and approved.

2. Finance Committee/Treasurer (Bob Ingoldsby)

There were four new memberships, a Capital Campaign donation from Oberg Manufacturing and Half-marathon sponsors.

3. Maintenance (Bob Corbett)

N/A

4. Buffalo Township Liaison (John Haven)

- a. The Buffalo Township road crew will be working on the trail to patch, roll and drag, using equipment compliments of Lernerville Speedway.
- b. More 'comfort stations' are needed along the trail. Tabled till May, we are going to reposition the existing.
- c. The Career Track kids will be back to work soon.

5. Volunteers

- a. Help/volunteers are needed for the Bike Rode, May 17th at South Butler Intermediate School in Saxonburg, check website for details, e-mail scadziggy@zoominternet.net if you would like to help.
- b. Help/volunteers are needed for promoting the Trail at the Buffalo Township Day on May 18th-10:00 -5:00. E-mail scadziggy@zoominternet.net if you have a couple hours to help out.
- c. Girl Scout Kara Knechtel presented a rough draft of how the plaque display will look when completed. She also shared some of the information (text) that will be used.
- d. Great turnout of 18 persons (many first-timers) for last work day! THANK YOU. So much fun, in fact, that all want to come back for Saturday, April 12th, while there is little growth to hinder efforts.

6. Half-marathon (Ron Bennett)

- a. Reminder cards are ready to be mailed to the past participants.
- b. Butler Health System has not yet confirmed if they will be the main sponsor

7. Butler Tourism (Debby Swettenam)

N/A

8. Website (Dave Adams)

Will replace the beautiful snow scene on the home page with a springtime scene.

9. Newsletter (Bobbi Skwarla)

A rough draft of the newsletter was presented. Bobbi will forward an estimate to Chris (to share with Executive Committee) for printing 500 black & white copies to be distributed at various functions and 500 3-page color/black & white copies to be mailed to members.

10. Advertising (Art Borland, Bob Ingoldsby)

This will be discussed in more detail at the May meeting.

C. Issues Pending

- a. The BFTC will host a Groundbreaking Ceremony on National Trails Day, June 7, 2008. Committee sign-ups would be appreciated! Would like to have publicity with Butler city radio stations, food and drink and activities.
- b. Chris has completed the application to the USPS for non-profit postage status.

D. Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for May 5 at 7:00 p.m. in Kings Community Room, located in Sarver.

Notes submitted by: Bobbi Skwarla