

Blue Mountain Wildlife, Incorporated

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting

January 8, 2009

Hamburg Community Library

6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order – Don Waldron

Don Waldron called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the October 9, November 13, and December 11, 2008 meetings

Pat Adams made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 9, November 13, and December 11, 2008 meetings as submitted. Harry Nelson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report – Sue Fisher

Gregg Adams submitted Sue Fisher's January 1, 2009 Treasurer's Report:

1. Expenses for December = \$303.69 & income was \$40.00.
2. Balance in regular checking = \$5250.45
3. Balance in county Grant checking = \$3560.65

Will be working on our taxes as soon as I get the forms.

4. Committee Reports

A. Membership – Gregg Adams

Gregg Adams submitted the January 1, 2009 Membership Report:

Membership is currently at 131, including:

- 5 Corporate
- 1 Donation
- 70 Family
- 6 Lifetime
- 16 Senior
- 32 Single
- 1 Student

27 Memberships are up for renewal in January:

- Family of Robert Greenawalt
- Ellen Grim
- Family of Kerry Grim
- Family of Jeffrey Hartman
- Beverly Hess
- Family of Terry Loose
- Brian Moyer
- Jeffrey Nelson
- Family of Thomas Power
- Schlenker Motors, Inc. Larry Reichert
- Terry Rossman

B. Communications and Publicity – Jeff Hartman

i. Fall Newsletter

Jeff Hartman stated that he had been out of touch with his schooling, but that he now has more time he will write a number of articles.

Gregg Adams stated that he needs three articles for the Fall Newsletter.

ii. Winter Newsletter

Gregg Adams stated that he needs several articles for the Winter Newsletter. He stated that he'd like to publish it in February or March.

C. Lease/Grants – Don Waldron

i. Joint Agreement with Berks County, Tilden Township, SRHA

No action.

ii. Berks County Open Space Grant

No action.

D. Programs and Special Events – Pat Adams

i. 2009 Schedule of Events

Pat Adams stated that the Kutztown Earth Day was not worth attending.

Jeff Hartman stated that he could participate in Environmental Education Day if he was given sufficient advance notice.

Pat stated that she is in contact with Tim Easter at the school. She stated that a class from Perry Elementary would also be attending this year's event.

Barry Shollenberger stated that both Scott Reichart of Ducks Unlimited and Scott Johnson expressed interest in attending.

Pat stated that Kathy Grim of the Army Corps of Engineers would be attending.

Gregg Adams suggested attending the Kempton Alternative Energy Fair.

Pat stated that she would contact Sam Yoder.

ii. Community Service Fair – January 29, 2009

Pat Adams stated that the date to RSVP a table is January 12th. She inquired as to the projects BMW could offer. She suggested gardening in the Butterfly Garden and constructing the outdoor classrooms.

Barry Shollenberger suggested installing a bald eagle nest pole.

Pat suggested constructing and installing purple martin boxes and kestrel boxes. She pointed out that any volunteers would require mentoring.

Barry suggested contacting Hawk Mountain to suggest additional projects.

Gregg Adams suggested volunteers to support the QUAD Games.

iii. Schuylkill Watershed Congress – March 1-2, 2009

Gene Stohrer stated that he would attend the Congress as a representative of Blue Mountain Wildlife.

iv. Northern Berks QUAD Games Bartram Breeze – March 29, 2009

Gregg Adams stated that volunteers will be needed.

v. April/Earth Day Project Saturdays – April 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2009

Jeff Hartman suggested constructing rock piles in the basin for wildlife habitat.

Barry Shollenberger suggested implementing the Bank Swallow project.

Pat stated that she would ask Kerry Grim to come to a future meeting to discuss the Bank Swallow project.

Gregg Adams stated that he will be sending introduction/information packets to all the area churches to let them know about the Earth Day events.

Barry stated that he will check with Cabela's to see if they can participate. He expressed his interest in running a fishing rodeo.

vi. Fifth Annual Membership Banquet – April 24, 2009

Gregg Adams suggested returning to the Blue Mountain Restaurant.

Barry Shollenberger suggested the Port Clinton Hotel.

Pat Adams suggested that the Port Clinton Hotel is too small and too busy to host the Banquet.

vii. Bear Creek Festival – May 17, 2009

No action.

E. Grounds, Maintenance and Rules – Barry Shollenberger

i. Therman Madeira Footbridge Project

Don Waldron stated that there has been no action on the project.

Pat Adams inquired as to the permitting process.

Don stated that the GP-7 permit for the bridge has been approved and now he needs to submit a building permit application to Tilden Township. He stated that he had received price quotes from Randy Brensinger at Edinburgh Welding for steel beams for bridging. He stated that the least expensive option was two twenty-foot long 14" 30-pound beams for an eight foot wide bridge at \$1,058. He stated that he'd like the beams to be installed as close to flush to grade as possible. He stated that he will make a sketch of the bridge to submit with the building permit but that an engineered design may be required.

ii. Parking Lot/Trail Topping Project

No action

iii. Kiosk Project

Pat Adams stated that Eastern Lumber can supply the homosote.

Gregg Adams inquired as to whether plexiglass will be used to protect the bulletin board.

Barry Shollenberger stated that plexiglass is expensive. He suggested installing a fake video camera to deter vandalism.

Gregg stated that signs would have to be posted noting video surveillance.

Barry stated that he had the signage and that he could purchase a fake camera for about \$40 and mention video surveillance in the news story about the kiosk.

Jeff Hartman made a motion to authorize the purchase and installation of one fake video camera and appropriate signage. Gregg Adams seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

iv. Other

Barry Shollenberger stated that Cabela's has seed available and that he would contact them.

F. Local Group Liaisons Reports

No report.

5. Correspondence:

A. Sue Fisher Correspondence dated December 21 and 23, 2008

The Directors reviewed the correspondence without comment.

6. Old Business:

A. Draft Open Space Comprehensive Plan

Gregg Adams submitted the draft and requested that the Directors review it and submit comments by the next meeting. He stated that he'd like to submit the final draft to BAMR and the Municipalities for review and comment in February and present the final draft to BMW for approval at the April Annual Banquet.

B. Elaine Rabenold Project Request

Gregg Adams reported that he had emailed Mrs. Rabenold the suggestion to clean up the area below the dam. He also suggested contacting Hawk Mountain for additional project suggestions. He reported that he had not yet heard back from Mrs. Rabenold.

7. New Business:

A. Jessica Lichman of System Design Engineering – Port Clinton Sewage System Proposal

Ms. Lichman stated that she is presenting the proposed sewage system for Port Clinton and is requesting feedback. She stated that Port Clinton started its Act 537 Plan in the early 1990's but deferred completion when PA DEP requested a Phase 1 Archeological Survey of the site of a proposed sewage treatment plant. She stated that when Cabela's was developed, SDE was asked to look into a regional sewage system. She stated that Port Clinton chose to implement a pump station and force main to connect into Hamburg's system along Port Clinton Avenue north of I-78. She stated that Port Clinton is now applying for grants and will need to complete an environmental study. She stated that the current plan proposes a 4" PVC force main that parallels the Sunoco Pipeline from Port Clinton to the PA Route 61 bridge, at which point to climbs to Port Clinton Avenue and continues under the road surface into Hamburg.

Pat Adams inquired as to when the project is scheduled to be completed.

Ms. Lichman stated that the timeframe is dependent upon securing the funding. She estimated two years.

Jeff Hartman inquired as to release valves.

Ms. Lichman stated that release valves are proposed at the high points.

Pat asked if Hamburg needs to increase capacity at the sewage treatment plant.

Ms. Lichman stated that Hamburg had increased capacity in anticipation of accepting Port Clinton's sewage.

Jeff inquired as to the timeframe for construction along Port Clinton Avenue.

Ms. Lichman estimated that construction along Port Clinton Avenue would take about one year and hoped that it would be done in such a way as to keep one lane open throughout the construction.

There was a discussion regarding the use of the abandoned railroad bed below Port Clinton Avenue along the Schuylkill River. It was noted that using the railroad has the advantages of being at a lower elevation for most of the route, would likely involve less

construction work with rock, and would require much less disruption of traffic along Port Clinton Avenue. It was suggested that a trail could be created on top of the sewer line to secure additional funding. It was suggested that the Hamburg Historical Society would likely support the using the railroad bed.

Gregg Adams inquired as to how a cracked or broken line would be handled.

Ms. Lichman stated that there are to be check valves along the line and the pump station will stop pumping should pressure drop. She noted that Hamburg has offered to maintain the line.

Jeff stated that Reading Area Community College has old maps showing the railroad right-of-way available on its online library. He suggested using “Schuylkill Canal” to search for the appropriate maps.

8. Courtesy of Floor:

None

9. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Attendance

Gregg Adams
Pat Adams
Jeff Hartman
Angela Johnson
Harry Nelson
Barry Shollenberger
Gene Stohrer
Don Waldron

Motions Passed

Motion to accept the minutes of the October 9, November 13, and December 11, 2008 meetings as submitted

Motion to authorize the purchase and installation of one fake video camera and appropriate signage