

Blue Mountain Wildlife, Incorporated

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting

February 12, 2009

Hamburg Community Library

6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order – Don Waldron

Don Waldron called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the January 8, 2009 Meeting

Pat Adams noted that, in agenda item 4.D.ii, “blue martin” should be changed to “purple martin”.

Don Waldron stated that, in agenda item 4.E.i, “flush to grade” should be changed to “as close to flush to grade as possible”.

Jeff Hartman made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Pat Adams seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Treasurer’s Report – Sue Fisher

Gregg Adams submitted Sue Fisher’s February 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 February 1, 2009 Membership Report:

Membership is currently at 119, including:

- 5 Corporate
- 1 Donation
- 58 Family
- 7 Lifetime
- 19 Senior
- 28 Single
- 1 Student

3 Memberships are up for renewal in February:

- Family of Mark Dreibelbis
- Therman Madeira

B. Communications and Publicity – Jeff Hartman

i. Fall Newsletter

Jeff Hartman stated that he had three articles ready.

Gene Stohrer stated that he would do an article on the Schuylkill Watershed Congress.

ii. Winter Newsletter

Gregg Adams stated that he’d like the Winter issue to be published in March.

C. Lease/Grants – Don Waldron

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

Don Waldron reported no action.

ii. Berks County Open Space Grant

Don Waldron reported no action.

D. Programs and Special Events – Pat Adams

i. 2009 Schedule of Events

Gregg Adams stated that he had been in contact with Peg Hentz of Red Creek Wildlife and had asked if she would be available to present at the Annual Banquet. She stated that she may be able to; depending upon how late an earlier presentation would be scheduled to run. Gregg also asked her if there were any gatherings that BMW may be interested in attending in 2009 and she had suggested the Berks Kite Day on April 26 and the Game Commission Family Day at Middle Creek in September.

ii. Community Service Fair Review

Pat Adams reviewed the event, stating that coordination between the administration and the faculty and kids was poor. She stated that the administration was interested in doing another Fair in the fall and would be providing a bulletin board to post projects for the kids. She also stated that the Reading Company Historical Society expressed interest in having BMW do another historical tour of the Kerny area and she told them that she would be interested in doing so.

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

Pat Adams stated that Chari Towne of the Delaware River Keepers had expressed an interest in reviewing the Kernsville Desilting Basin to do a possible presentation and tour. She stated that she would be meeting Chari at Cabela's at 12:15 on April 27th.

Gene Stohrer submitted an email on the topic and stated that he would coordinate between the two groups.

Jeff Hartman pointed out that the Delaware River Keepers had done similar tours in past years.

Don Waldron stated that the Army Corps of Engineers website has a good history of the desilting project.

Pat mentioned that Diane Russell is a contact.

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

Pat Adams stated that she has gotten advertising out for the QUAD Games.

v. April/Earth Day Project Saturday – April 4, 2009

Gregg Adams submitted the posters for the Earth Day Celebration that he mailed to area churches and will be distributing around Hamburg highlighting the projects available.

vi. April/Earth Day Project Saturday – April 11, 2009

See above.

vii. April/Earth Day Project Saturday – April 18, 2009

See above.

viii. Fifth Annual Membership Banquet – April 24, 2009

No report.

ix. April/Earth Day Project Saturday – April 25, 2009

See above.

x. Bear Creek Festival – May 17, 2009

Pat Adams stated that Porcupine Pat is no longer responsible for the Bear Creek Festival and that Wayne Lehman is now in charge.

xi Environmental Education Day – May 29, 2009

Pat Adams stated that Griff Jones is not available for the Day.

Barry Shollenberger suggested contacting the Game Commission, as they have expressed interest in helping out. He also suggested that the Youth Conservation Corps is interested, too.

Pat stated that she has confirmed Wayne Lehman, Pat Catucci and a third presenter for the River Class. She stated that Kathy Grimm and Hallie Groff from the Army Corps would be presenting in the Wetlands. She stated that she is looking for a third presenter for the Wetlands through Ducks Unlimited. She stated that Porcupine Pat will be at the upper classroom area and that he now charges \$60 for such an appearance. She stated that Dave McSurty and a third presented have been confirmed. She stated that Jeff Hartman and Glen Wenrich would be presenting on the Schuylkill Canal and that she would be in the Butterfly Garden. She stated that she needs two more presenters.

xii. Northern Berks QUAD Games Dutch Country Bike Race – June 7, 2009

No report.

E. Grounds, Maintenance and Rules – Barry Shollenberger

i. Therman Madeira Footbridge Project

Barry Shollenberger stated that he confirmed that Therman Madeira has money set aside for the footbridge.

Don Waldron submitted a quote from John Watkins Architects for the architectural drawings for the footbridge. He stated that a similar project would normally cost about \$2,000, but that Watkins quoted \$1,300, \$650 of which would be returned as a donation. He stated that Watkins had already discussed the project with the new Tilden Code Enforcement Officer.

Barry inquired as to the timeline on the project.

Don stated that the project could start soon after the permit approval. He discussed some of the ideas for the bridge.

Gregg Adams stated that he would like to see the 8-foot wide bridge.

Pat Adam inquired as to the decking material and whether it could take horse traffic.

Don stated that the decking would be 2-inch thick lumber but would not be designed for horse traffic. He stated that bollards would also be needed to permit vehicles.

Mary Jo McCormick made the motion to award the work on the architectural drawings for the Therman Madeira Footbridge Project to John Watkins Architect of Fleetwood based on his submitted quote. Barry Shollenberger seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ii. Parking Lot/Trail Topping Project

No report.

iii. Kiosk Project

Pat Adams stated that she would contact Eastern Lumber to see if homosote is available.

Barry Shollenberger stated that he planned on using plywood and flakeboard.

iv. Other

Pat Adams reported that two large rocks are down on the Bartram Trail near the PA 61 Bridge. She inquired as to whether she should send an FYI to Bob Folwell.

Barry Shollenberger stated that she should. He also stated that the trail needs some work around the bridge. He also stated that road work needs to be done soon.

F. Local Group Liaisons Reports

Pat Adams stated that NBRC is doing peer-to-peer assessment for recreation programs, which is a preliminary step for NBRC to become a regional planning committee. She stated that the survey will cost approximately \$12,000, of which PA DEP grants may cover \$11,000. She stated that the end goal is to provide regional recreation planning that will avoid duplication of effort and provide a wider range of recreational opportunities in the area.

5. Correspondence:

A. Peg Hentz Email – February 4, 2008

Covered earlier.

B. Chris Spohn Community Service Fair Email – February 2, 2008

Covered earlier.

C. Donald Heintzelman Raptor Corridor Email – February 2, 2008

The sentiment of the group is to support the Corridor.

D. Susan Fordyce Schuylkill Sojourn Email – January 29, 2008

No comments.

6. Old Business:

A. Final Draft Open Space Comprehensive Plan

Gregg Adams reviewed the draft Plan and noted that he intended to forward the draft to the surrounding Municipalities and to BAMR for approval. He hoped that, with BAMR's approval, the plan could be approved at the Annual Banquet.

Barry Shollenberger stated that BAMR does not want the Industrial Drive Trail to be on the berm.

Gregg stated that he would tweak the plan to so that.

Pat Adams inquired as to whether a set of stairs could be constructed to the top of the berm at the location where it had been cut to build the Therman Madeira Switchback.

Barry stated that it should be possible.

7. New Business:

A. Dan Cipitelli, Benches Project

Pat Adams introduced Dan Cipitelli, who has expressed interest in constructing benches to fulfill both the School District's Community Service requirement and an Eagle Scout requirement. She inquired as to the type of benches Dan had in mind.

Jeff Hartman stated that the bench would have to be hardwood and would have to be large enough to avoid twisting as the wood dries. He stated that logs could be used for the legs, but that they would have to be secured in some manner. He inquired as to the type of finish that Dan had in mind.

Pat suggested an oil finish or paint.

Mary Jo McCormick suggested that the finish not transfer when sat upon.

Jeff stated that the finish should not bleed when wet, particularly since the benches will be near the river.

Don Waldron suggested that the benches be similar to those along the Tulpehocken Creek Towpath, with concrete legs and limber seating surfaces.

Mary Jo suggested using downed trees, as they have started the aging process. She inquired if milling was available.

Jeff stated that Kenny Reppert does milling locally.

Gregg Adams suggested that Dan look into constructing an outdoor classroom to meet the time requirements of the Community Service.

Pat suggested meeting onsite on the following Sunday.

8. Courtesy of Floor:

Jeff Hartman stated that the United Sludge Free Alliance would be holding a meeting on March 10 between 10 am and 2 pm to discuss preventing sludge from being applied to farmlands.

Pat Adams inquired as to whether the Tilden EAC should be involved.

Jeff stated that it should.

Gregg Adams stated that he would like to develop a Non-Profit Partnership agreement to formally recognize partnerships with other non-profit groups without having to resort to reciprocal memberships.

9. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Attendance

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

Motions Passed

Motion to accept the minutes as amended

Motion to award the work on the architectural drawings for the Therman Madeira Footbridge Project to John Watkins Architect of Fleetwood based on his submitted quote