

Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association

Minutes February 20, 2024

Meeting: The meeting was called to order by President Peter Bellizzi at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall.

Board Members Present: Pattie Scott, Chrissy Wolcott, Fred Pizzuto, Eric N, Erik H, Peter, Rafael Diaz, Susan VDB, and Ray C via phone.

Board Members Absent: Loretta Miller, Marie Sidgwick

Guests Attending: Town Supervisor Dave Plavchak, Rickey Auchmoody and Andreana Waltravon(sp?), and Lori Robinson and Jami Anson of WOTH.

Discussions:

-Ricky Auchmoody asks the HVRTA Board to consider dedicating the HVRT to Ray Costantino who was instrumental in the development of the HVRT. He also indicates he will provide signage denoting same as decided by the Board.

-Lori Robertson & Jami Anson discussed the WOTH & HVRTA partnership on Mayfest & Walktoberfest. Mayfest dates were changed to Memorial Day weekend making this a 3 day event. The date was chosen to avoid conflicts with the TOL Springfest and the Marathon. Lori presented the revised WOTH proposal which the additional day, fee schedule calculated on past attendance, increased HVRT Digital exposure, and indicated Peter would be paid directly for the services he renders during the event which are not a function of the HVRTA. She also indicated that the TOL PD will be paid by WOTH for their presence at each of the events. Peter expressed his concerns about not having had a discussion with WOTH about the contract proposal prior to this presentation. Lori, Wric N, and Fred P indicated the proposal would need to be discussed with all HVRTA Board members prior to a decision. Eric N indicated the events are now Fee or Rental-based vs Revenue-based as in the past. Contract fees are guaranteed regardless of foul weather.

Minutes: January 2024 HVRTA Meeting cancelled due to inclement weather. December 2023 Minutes were approved on a motion from Eric N, seconded by Chrissy Wolcott.

Treasurer's Report: Historical Signage fees to be rechecked before finalizing this section of budget activity. Treasurers report was approved via a motion of Eric N, seconded by Erik H.

Membership: Chrissy states membership has increased to 60.

Correspondence: No report.

REPORTS/UPDATES:

NYS Parks/Empire State Trail – Peter states he and Eric the Park Ranger at WOTH are working on a Bike event featuring safety, repairs, a bike swap, for early June, possibly the 7th, date to be determined.

Trail Maintenance: The Mowing contract went out and is expected to be approved at the next TOL Town Board meeting (tomorrow). Richie/TOL will be doing the trail, anything other than within the contract.

Trail Signage: Peter presented the local newspaper article about the historical signage added to the HVRT to the Board members.

OLD BUSINESS:

Paid Parking: This is on the agenda for a vote at the next TOL Town Board meeting(tomorrow).

HVRTA 10'x10'Tent: Tent is not yet ordered. Plan is for our round logo placed at top, front, and horizontal logo on sides.

Ford Bridge: The bridge work is to Erik H presented the new card design. Suggestions taken to emphasize key points by using bold/red type. Erik H is sending Lorrie Miller a copy of the revised card. He will order 500 cards/ \$53.98 from Vista Printing, approved on a motion by Susan, seconded by Pattie.

Website: Chrissy states she will be adding info about the Woods Walk and Scout Bridge as well as a connection to the drone footage.

Walkway improvements 75 Haviland Rd. parking lot: WOTH has given back the grant. Dave P indicates the TOL cannot take on the grant, matching funds. The TOL will fix Parking Lot B. TOL will complete the realignment planned. Parking Lot C will add 50 spaces. Erik H stated that we may be eligible for one of the many Storm water Grants available.

Art Along the Trail: Peter indicates he has spoken with Susan and she is setting up to install the artworks in March.

Parking Lot across from Fire Station 2: Peter states it needs a whole stone base.

NEW BUSINESS:

2024 Events on trail:

We need to choose events and chairpersons early enough to schedule to avoid conflicting events, and to plan for successful events. Chili Fest/Winterfest - February, Moon walk-late October, etc. Ideas and chair persons needed. Concerns were voiced about managing Winterfest due to loss of The Would for help with vending, and with Pot cleaning, as well as the local small businesses having difficulty supplying the chili.

Scheduled 2024 Events on the Trail:

03.16.2024:	TOL Events Committee Clover Classic
05.05.2024:	Alpha Win Marathon
05.25,26,27.2024:	Mayfest
06.01.2024:	HVRTA Annual Meeting
10.19.2024	Alzheimer's Walk
10.20.2024	ALS Walk
10.26.2024	Walktoberfest

Pavilion Rentals: Wendy Rosinski will be handling all pavilion rentals. Fees generated will go toward electricity, etc.

Women's Supplies will be stocked in the pavilion bathrooms for a 3 month trial period to determine usage. TOL will provide a dispenser.

NEW BUSINESS:

5 Year Plan Development: Chrissy states that Julie Bell from Parks will resume working with us at our next Board meeting, 03.19.2024, to develop our 5 Year Plan. Chrissy will email the notes to date for our review before our next meeting.

Rafael stated that a tree collapsed about 10 feet from him when he was walking along the rail trail on his 85th birthday. Suggestion made to hire an arborist to trim the trees.

Discussion of Proposal to dedicate the HVRT to Ray Costantino. Fred P moved that we move forward with the idea, make the recommendation to the TOL Town Board. HVRTA Board in agreement with this recommendation.

Discussion of Contract Proposal Re: Mayfest. Dates are locked in. We just need to reach agreement on fees and contract. Pattie expressed concern about scheduling the event at Memorial Day weekend – possible conflict with TOL's Memorial Day Parade, difficulty securing enough volunteers. TOL and HVRTA will have booths located in area of the Havilland Caboose.

Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm on motion by Susan, seconded by Fred

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Van De Bogart for Loretta Miller
Recording Secretary