

Butler Freeport Community Trail Council Meeting
Meeting Notes, January 5, 2009

In Attendance: Bobbi Diller, Chris Ziegler, Bob Ingoldsby, Franny Ritchie, Connie Sutara, Angelo Quaranta, Drenda Gostkowski, Karl Knechtel, Kevin Knechtel, Teresa Stevick, Bob Selvaggio, Ron Bennett, Fred Como, Albert Roenigk, John Haven, Bob Danehy, Art Borland, Ben Brugmans, Rick Carr, Bob Corbett, Dave Adams

A. Announcements/President's Report

1. Wrapping LL Bean was much fun! Thanks to those that helped wrap, LL Bean donated \$500 and we made another \$375.21 in tips. Many people took brochures and newsletters. It was fun to talk to people about the trail; some had heard of it and used it, and others said they would like to. Angelo gave a short presentation about the trail. We are welcome to do this at any time.
2. Chris had a meeting with Conservation District (CD) regarding the permits. It was determined that the bridge needs a General 11 Permit and this will be added as an addendum to the NPDES and Chapter 105. CD is very helpful and a great resource.
3. The meeting with Rivers of Steel was successful. Requested money for a parking lot, two composting toilets, rain shelter, trail-head sign and landscaping. If Buffalo, Summit and Winfield Townships could donate services saving the cost of labor, it could possibly reduce the cost from \$555,000 (materials only) to \$100,000.
4. Angelo has completed a business plan for the Herman Station.
5. A DCED grant proposal for the amount of \$705,000.00 was submitted.
6. Connie Sutara was appointed to act as a liaison to develop a personal relationship with organizations, businesses, etc to raise awareness that the trail is available for events, such as fundraisers – walks, runs, etc.
7. Butler's BAMB (Butler Area Multi-Municipal Plan) includes Summit Twp., Butler City, Butler Twp., East Butler and Penn Twp. and by adding the bFCT, we can play a part in connecting the parks with trails and form positive relationships.
8. Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission has offered to include Butler in their "counts" opportunity for funding for city routes.
9. They Working grant proposals are due March 1st; we'll be asking for \$5,000 to finish gate from Great Belt north.

B. Open Issues

1. Membership (Anne Quaranta)
There have been eight new membership requests.
2. Finance Committee/Treasurer (Bob Ingoldsby)
There have been normal financial transactions over the last month, including Capital Campaign donations.

3. Maintenance (Bob Corbett & Ouch Roenigk)
 - a. There is a workday scheduled for January 24, 9:00 – 12:00 beginning with a walk from Bonniebrook to Butler.
 - b. There is a drainage issue to be corrected at Sheetz Drive.
4. Buffalo Township Liaison (John Haven)
Not available.
5. Volunteers
Kevin Knechtel will build memorial benches as his Eagle Scout project.
6. Half-marathon (Ron Bennett)
There is a continued search for a race director.
7. Butler Tourism (Debby Swettenam)
There is a general membership meeting on January 15, 8:00 a.m. in Zelianople.
8. Website (Dave Adams)
Pages will be added for Fellowship Crossing and Herman Station.
9. Newsletter (Bobbi Skwarla)
The newsletter is scheduled for publication in February.
10. Advertising (Art Borland, Bob Ingoldsby)
N/A
11. Events (Franny Ritchie)
 1. About 15 persons participated in the tree decorating event in Butler. While it was very, very, very cold, it was fun to meet new people, drink hot chocolate as well as feed the birds! Thanks to all who helped.
 2. A geocaching class is going to be scheduled soon.

C. Issues Pending

1. Fellowship Crossing Bridge (Ben Brugmans)
Ben met with the county engineer. More beams are needed, or a plan to acquire beams before final plans can be drawn. In lieu of natural stone, a sturdier bridge can be built with concrete and ‘forms’ for natural stone, including tint, can be rented. Motion made (by Art, seconded by Debbie and passed unanimously) for \$5,000 to be available for purchase of beams.

D. Next Meeting

Please join us for the first meeting February 2, 7:00 p.m., at King’s Restaurant in Sarver.

Submitted by Bobbi Diller