



KEYSTONE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

Council Meeting



Saturday, April 8, 2017, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Ligonier Camp and Conference Center, Ligonier, PA

Jim Foster, Paul Shaw, Katie Barker, Donna Thompson, Rob Altenburg, Ernest Werstler, Bob Merrill, Joe Neville, Brynn Furnace, Jenn Ulmer, Dave Gantz, Ed Lawrence, Barb VanHorn, Lois Brooks, Jim Hooper, Allen Britton, Lorraine and Joe Healey, Catherine Shade, Linda Enders, Krista Cessna, Patty Brunner, Bob Mulshine, John Stephen, Karen Lutz, Vicki Porto, Carl Davis, Krista Cessna, Juliet Altenburg, Joann Neal, Sandy Sherman, Bonnie Walker, Paul Schumman, Tom Fazi (Game Commission), and Paul Zeph (DCNR)

Paul calls meeting to order at 4:15 pm.

AGENDA

- I. **Opening Remarks** Paul skips to the agenda.
- II. **General Membership/ Public Comments** (none)
- III. **Approval of the Minutes of the 10/15/2016 Board and Council Meeting** (Council vote)
 - a. Motion to approve the minutes from October? Ed Lawrence motions, Vicki Porto seconds. Any discussion? No discussion. All in favor of approving? All aye. Nays? None. Minutes approved.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report** (Rob Altenburg) - see attachment
 - a. Paul: The deficit this year to date was only \$1,000, but last year it was \$10,000 at this time and we ended the year in the black. We have also received significant donations and grants from Patagonia, Back Country Edge, and the Alpine Club of Williamsport that have not been factored into this report.
 - b. Motion to accept the report? Patty Brunner motions, Ernie Werstler 2nd as subject to audit, Barb VanHorn seconds the motion. All in favor? All aye. Nays? None. Report accepted.
- V. **Agency Partner and Affiliate Reports**
 - A. ATC (Karen Lutz) – see attachment
 - B. North Country Trails Association (Joyce Appel) – see attachment
 - C. Game Commission Report (Tom Fazi, Southwest Region Information and Education Supervisor)
 - a. Tom discussed funding issues for the Game Commission (PGC). A major source of funding is through hunting and furtaking licenses, but the price has not increased since 1999. Senate Bill 192 was passed to the House for consideration. This bill would allow the Game Commission to set their own fees, with oversight, so as to increase fees gradually overtime. Tom asked for KTA's support of this bill. If hikers would like to contribute to the PGC, they can make donations on the website, subscribe to Game News, purchase artwork, books, decoys, and other merchandise online. In regards to Sunday hunting, Tom said that it would need to be voted on in the state legislature before the PGC does anything. Even among

- hunters there is a split. Even if it passes, it would not be every Sunday and the public would have the chance to have their say. We are a long way from that.
- b. Jim, Paul, and Bob voiced support of the license increase.

- D. Representative Brian Barbin, Minority Chairman, House Game and Fisheries Committee
 - a. There is no authority for Sunday hunting right now and it is not a power being granted to the PGC. Some states allow hunting on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday four weeks of the year. We are not at that point because of opposition from the Farm Bureau. Sunday hunting is not going anywhere. I'm in favor of the trails. I will be voting for Senate Bill 192, but most of my colleagues in the House will not. The hiking community must be vigilant that Sunday hunting does not become the reason to pass the bill. Make sure it is best for all of the people who use the trails.

VI. Staff Reports

- A. Executive Director Report (Joseph Neville) - attached

VII. Action Items

- A. By-Law modifications (Jim Foster)
 - a. Article 6 page 5, proposed amendment to add, "An individual may serve no more than three consecutive years as president." Advisory approved by board and recommended to council.
 - b. A spirited discussion ensued.
 - c. Motion to approve: Joe Healy motions, seconded by Allen Britton. All in favor? All ayes. Motion carried.

VIII. Other Business (none)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm.

- IX. Next Board and Council Meetings:** Saturday, October 14, 2017, Wesley Forest Camp and Retreat, Weikert, PA