

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AMWELL VALLEY TRAIL ASSOCIATION

**March 18, 2008**

The meeting of the Amwell Valley Trail Association was held on March 18, 2008 at Joan Sank's house. It was called to order by the president, Trish Buckwalter, at 7:40 pm.

Present: Trish, Joan, Mary, Gael, Gail, Blaine, Stephen, Lynn, Jen E., Phil, Cindy, Jen F.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as written.

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

Jen distributed a printout showing a comparison of our income and expenses from 2006 to 2007, and another showing the budget for 2007. A discussion of the printouts followed.

Items discussed included:

We bought more baseball caps than we have sold. It was decided not to buy anymore, but to attempt to sell those we have. Trish suggested advertising them on the website and to continue to sell them at the summer picnic and the hunter pace.

Phil suggested removing money budgeted for clinics and seminars.

It was noted that membership dues are down somewhat. Gael said that she will be sending out membership reminders shortly.

Phil made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, it was seconded by Gael, and the report was accepted.

Jen said that she will make the changes in the budget and send them out by email.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

Both Trish and Gael received complimentary emails about the Winter Doldrums party.

## OLD BUSINESS:

Signs - Trish reported that the Township administrator had a crew install the horse crossing signs, along with the 25 mile per hour signs, in all of the places that Trish indicated. However, the County has installed only the yellow horse crossing signs in whatever various places they chose, regardless of Trish's requests. Also, they failed to include the 25 mile per hour signs along with the horse crossing signs. Trish is going to give the additional unused signs to the Township crew and ask them to install them in strategic places. One place where a sign is needed is on Lindberg Road.

Several people announced to Trish at the party that they would be happy to mark trails with the white trail markers used on AVTA trails. Trish will write up a blurb for the newsletter about the matter, encouraging people to help by marking trails. Gael cautioned that people must know exactly where the trails are before marking them.

It was decided that the money from the hunter pace fundraiser could be given on alternate years to the Rescue Squad and to the Fire Company.

## Report on the Winter Doldrums Party -

Gael reported that 93 people attended the party, more than previous years. One idea is that more people came out because the party was not held in the middle of winter, so Jen F. suggested continuing to hold it in the spring in coming years and to call it the "Spring Fever" party.

The Board decided that it might be time to try the fire house, and have the party catered. Phil suggested pizza and beer at Hillbilly Hall, rather than the buffet dinner. Trish suggested the Harvest Moon Restaurant. Joan volunteered to research the matter and report on her findings at the next Board meeting.

Gael would like to have two people taking money for the auction next time, as it is very confusing for one person to do it alone.

Gail wondered if the NJ State Law concerning law suits in horse-related matters should be included in our membership forms, so as to make sure that everyone is aware of the law. Gael will include a print-out of the law with the membership forms. She will also write about the matter in the newsletter.

Gael made a plea that articles for the newsletter be sent to her, as she needs new ideas and fresh articles.

Cindy asked about the current status of the John Higgins property. Trish and Joan said that they feel confident that it will be preserved, with the help of various preservation groups, the Township, County, etc., but that it will probably take two years or more.

THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS MAY 20, 2008. Please note the date on your calendar.

Meeting adjourned.