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## **2017 Summary of Events and Accomplishments**

The Commission approved Temporary Use Permits for the following events:

- Run Michigan Cheap – April 23, 2017 – (Admin Approval)
- Cruisin' for the Trails – Motor City Brew Tours – May 6, 2017 (Admin Approval)
- Hometown Hustle – RCS Foundation – May 13, 2017 (Admin Approval)
- Run Michigan Cheap – July 16, 2017 – (Admin Approval)
- Crossroads Care Center Cycling Event – September 16, 2017 (Admin approval)
- Michigan Nature Association 5K Run – September 17, 2017 (Admin Approval)
- MI Adventure Club – Fall Challenge Race – September 23, 2017 (Approval)
- Lole Women's Health Run 10 Feed 10 – September 24, 2017 (Admin Approval)
- Brooksie Way – September 24, 2017 (Approval)
- P.L.E.A Foundation – 5K Run – September 30, 2017 (Admin Approval)
- KUKA Cares Family Bike Ride – October 1, 2017 (Approval)
- Orion Fire Fighter's Association – 5K – October 7, 2017 (Approval)
- CCC – 5K Run – October 14, 2017 (Admin approval)

*The Commission started the year excited about the \$756,200 Bridge 33.7 Renovation Project, being funded with a \$300,000 MNRTF grant, a \$300,000 TAP Grant, and a \$156,200 match from Oakland Township Parks and Recreation. A busy year!*

### **January**

The Commission discussed goals and objectives for 2017, including the impact of the Bridge 33.7 project.

The Commission approved recommended improvements to the SE Rochester property, including the addition of an observation deck, installation of water gauge, pathway, and benches.

The Commission approved the nominations and elected the Paint Creek Trailways Commission Officer positions.

The Commission discussed & approved several recommendations from the Trail Improvements Ad-Hoc Committee, including new bench locations along the trail.

The Commission discussed a memorial for former PCTC attorney and Commissioner John G. Makris.

## **February**

The Commission approved a two-year contract with the Oakland County Sheriff's Mounted & Bicycle Patrol.

The Commission approved a new Trout Unlimited Angler Access stair project near the Gallagher Road trailhead.

The Commission discussed & approved project recommendations from the Trail Branding Ad-Hoc Committee, including a logo contest, and the purchase of additional trail brochures.

The Commission prioritized 2017 Commission goals, and recommended timelines. This included a "Tails for Trails" National Trails Day event.

The Commission discussed development of a Paint Creek Trail Smart Phone App to reach trail users and provide map, parking, event, and mileage information.

The Commission approved contracting with attorney Hamameh to develop a joint agreement between Oakland Twp Parks and Rec and the Paint Creek Trailways Commission for the Paint Creek Trail Bridge 33.7 Renovation project.

## **March**

The Commission discussed ideas for a future Memorial Policy for the Paint Creek Trail.

The Commission approved an application for Google Trekker for use on the Paint Creek Trail.

The Commission discussed Orion Township maintenance concerns with regards to vandalism and restroom maintenance, and developed a plan to address them.

With recent legal changes to the practice, the Commission approved contracting with attorney Hamameh for the development of an updated and official Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) policy.

## **April**

The Commission approved the Joint Agreement with Oakland Twp Parks and Rec Commission for the Paint Creek Trail Bridge 33.7 Renovation.

The Commission approved the formation of an ad-hoc committee to explore options of adding the Village of Lake Orion as a full voting member, with the upcoming trail extension project.

The Commission approved Resolution #2017-001: FOIA Procedures and Guidelines.

The Commission approved the Paint Creek Trail Logo Design Contest Guidelines, prize levels, and promotion ideas.

The first Paint Creek Trail Adopt-A-Trail Program workday was held on Earth day, April 22. Four volunteer groups picked up trash and recyclable materials in four major sections of trail.

The Commission approved an RFP Design Build Services for the Paint Creek Trail Observation Deck in the SE Rochester property for distribution.

## **May**

Ms. Myers presented the draft 2016 Audit report, prepared by Gabridge & Company.

The first Little Free Library (LFL) was installed near the Paint Creek Trail picnic site south of Gallagher Road. The LFL will be maintained by the Rochester Hills Public Library.

The Commission discussed the Oakland County Local Government Investment Pool.

Friends of the Paint Creek Trail held the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual “Cruisin’ for the Trails” fundraiser by Motor City Brew Tours. The event was a success and raised \$5,300 for Paint Creek Trail improvements.

Ms. Gray and the Commission finalized plans for the first “Tails for Trails” event in June.

Bike Patroller Boboltz and the Oakland County Mounted Patrol returned to start another successful patrol season.

## **June**

The first “Tails for Trails” event was held on National Trails Day. Approximate 100 trail users and their dogs attended and participated in several events, including a costume contest and dog parade on the trail. Trail etiquette information was also distributed and training demonstrations were provided.

The Commission discussed a 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of the 2016 Audit.

The Village of Lake Orion ad-hoc committee continued making progress on recommendations to for the Village’s potential voting membership on the Paint Creek Trailways Commission.

Commission approved the Engineering Design Services RFP for the Bridge 33.7 Renovation.

Ms. Myers provided an update on the RFP Design Build for the Observation Deck in the SE Rochester property.

The Commission and staff made a site visit to Trail Bridge 33.7, to receive an overview of the structural deficiencies and current concerns with the bridge. An engineer provided visual explanations.

## **July**

The Commission discussed a footbridge encroachment and the consideration of a limited use permit for adjacent homeowner access.

The Commission approved the Labor Day Virtual Bridge Walk and Run, with Commissioners providing event support, sponsor development, and volunteer recruitment services.

The Commission approved the 2016 Audit.

Based on feedback from the first distribution, the Commission approved a Revised Design Build Observation Deck RFP for distribution.

Ms. Myers gave an update on the RFP Engineering Design Services – Paint Creek Trail Bridge 33.7 Renovation. Nine firms attended a mandatory pre-proposal meeting and site visit to gain a clearer understanding of the project scope.

## **August**

The Commission met jointly with Oakland Twp Parks and Recreation Commission on Bridge 33.7 Renovation. The Commission approved selection of Mannik & Smith Group in Monroe, Michigan, for Engineering Design Services for Bridge 33.7 Renovation.

The Commission approved the Paint Creek Trail Logo Design Contest winners.

The Commission authorized the purchase of a new office computer, to replace an obsolete 9 year old desktop for the Assistant Trail Manager.

The Commission discussed the 2018 Draft Budget.

The Commission approved Resolution #2017-002, a Resolution Regarding the Development of Property, and accepting the terms of the Bridge 33.7 Renovation Grant Project Agreement through the Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund.

## **September**

The 12th annual “Paint Creek Trail Virtual Bridge Walk” was held on Labor Day (Sept 4) with approximately 400 participants and volunteers. \$1,441 was raised through the suggested donation program, and was given to the Rochester Community Schools PTA “Bike Lids for Kids” program.

The Commission received a gift of framed photographs of a Penn Central train that used the current trail property in the 1970’s. Thomas Wolf, of Orion Township, presented the gift. In addition, he and two more musicians played a mini-concert of trail related songs for the Commission and public to celebrate the presentation of the gift.

The Commission approved an RFP for the 2017 Audit.

Seven new benches were installed along the Paint Creek Trail. Locations included: one at the north end of the Dinosaur Hill entrance in Rochester, four in Oakland Township (one near bridge 34, one near the Wet Prairie north of Silver Bell, one south of Adams, and one north of Adams), and two benches in Orion Township at the Foley Pond Observation deck.

Ms. Myers provided a progress report on the Bridge 33.7 Bridge Renovation design engineering.

Orion Township, the Department of Natural Resources, MDEQ, Clinton River Watershed Council, and the Commission worked together on the Rudd's Mill Dam Remnants removal project on Bald Mountain property near Clarkston and Kern Roads. With the generous donation of equipment and personnel by local contractors, the large graffiti covered concrete dam remnants were removed from the Paint Creek, helping to protect the ecological integrity of the water, and removing an "attraction" that encouraged vandalism.

## **October**

Ms. Myers provided an update to the Commission on Orion Township and the Village of Lake Orion's Trail projects and Village of Lake Orion membership.

The Commission and the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission considered five options for the Bridge 33.7 renovation. Subsequently, both groups agreed on the prefabricated truss option.

The Commission approved Mannik Smith Group's resurfacing engineering estimate for the Trail. Engineering will include the new observation deck in southeast Rochester, new trail and side path in southeast Rochester, and the Tienken educational pathway surface.

The Commission approved a five-year auditing contract with Mr. Ramie Philips, CPA.

The Commission approved closing the Clarkston/Kern vault restroom for the winter season December 2017 through April 1, 2018.

The Commission approved the 2018 budget.

A second "Adopt-A-Trail" workday weekend was held, with 8 groups cleaning up various sections of the trail.

The Commission approved a Limited Use Permit for the Franklin Footbridge near Orion and Adams Roads.

## **November**

The Commission approved Resolution #2017-003, establishing the 2018 Meeting Schedule.

The Commission approved Resolution #2017-004, establishing the 2018 Adopt A Trail clean up dates.

The Commission and the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission approved the Keystone Vehicular (Open Truss) style of bridge, with IPE (Brazilian hardwood) decking for Bridge 33.7. Discussions continued regarding a weathering steel versus galvanized finish.

Ms. Myers provided a progress report on the Bridge 33.7 Bridge Renovation design engineering, including finish and design options.

Chairman Becker provided a progress report regarding the Village of Lake Orion's membership on the Commission.

The Commission approved the event concept for National Trails Day in the Lake Orion area in 2018. A ribbon cutting, family walk on the trail, free craft, a recognition ceremony, and potential free lunch for participants are tentatively planned.

## **December**

The Commission and the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission approved the design of Bridge 33.7, which will include the Keystone Vehicular style, with IPE decking, and a weathered steel finish with additional steel and corrosion allowance.

The Commission discussed new Electric Bicycle Legislation that was recently signed into law.

The Commission mourned the death of former Trailways Commissioner, and founding member, Richard “Dick” Schultz, who passed away at the age of 80.

The Commission approved a final amended budget of \$100,457

The Commission approved the “Paint Creek Trail Signage” grant application to the Michigan Iron Belle Trail Grant Program for \$25,000.

The Commission maintained a positive social media presence with 5,367 Facebook followers (a 13.5% increase from 2016), 521 Instagram followers (a 17.8% increase from 2016), and 286 Twitter followers (an increase of 18% from 2016).