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2021 Summary of Events and Accomplishments

The Commission approved Temporary Use Permits for the following events:

- Orion Veterans Memorial Day 5k – May 31, 2021 (Admin Approval)
- Run Michigan Cheap 5k, 10k, Half Marathon – June 27 and July 11, 2021 (Admin Approval)
- Leader Dogs Bark and Brew 5k – June 5, 2022
- Hometown Hustle – RCS Foundation – September 18, 2021 (Admin Approval)
- Brooksie Way Half Marathon – September 26, 2021 (Admin Approval)
- National Pancreas Foundation – November 13, 2021
- Griffin USA – Charity Fun Run – November 18, 2021

January

Meeting virtually, the Commission welcomed four new Commission members.

The Commission approved the Policy on Electric Personal Mobility Devices.

The Commission approved a review of License Agreements by the Trailways attorney.

Construction of Bridge 33.7 was completed in December 2020, a new trash can and recycling bin were installed at the site.

Trail Manager Ford and Amanda Harrison of Detroit Institute of Art selected three locations for the 2021 DIA Inside/Out art installation on the trail.

Michigan State University recognized the Moutrie Pollinator Garden as an approved site for MSU Master Gardeners.

February

Meeting virtually, the Commission approved an Eagle Scout project for the replacement of kiosks at the Tienken and Atwater trailheads.

The Commission discussed 2021 Goals.

The President of the Friends of the Paint Creek Trail, Louis Carrio, gave an update of the Moutrie Pollinator Garden and the Commission discussed a potential donor memorial bike rack at the site.

The Commission discussed the 2021 National Trails Day event options.

President of the Mill Valley Home Owners Association thanked the Commission for the new stairway at Bridge 33.7.

Artwork for DIA Inside/Out was selected for the sites on the Paint Creek Trail and was presented to the Commission. Trail Manager Ford attended the virtual orientation for the program, and the press release about the Trail's selection as a host for the 2021 installation was issued.

Trail Manager Ford and Commissioner Gamage attended the first meeting of the Rochester Master Plan Steering Committee. The meeting primarily focused on zoning and land use policy.

March

Meeting virtually, the Commission approved a Temporary Permit for Lutheran Northwest High School Boosters Fun Run and Walk. The applicant later canceled the event.

The Commission discussed a revised standard license agreement.

The Commission discussed the license agreement with Solaronics, Inc.

The Commission approved an online scavenger hunt using the GooseChase smartphone app for National Trails Day.

The Commission discussed Oakland County grant opportunities.

Four sites on the trail submitted by staff were accepted Oakland County/CISMA Invasive Species Management Treatment for treatment in 2021.

Trail staff submitted two applications for projects through US Representative Elissa Slotkin's office. Ten projects in her district were selected to submit to the Appropriations Committee. The projects submitted were the engineering of Bridge 31.7 in Rochester and for the development of the Southeast Rochester property.

April

Meeting virtually, the Commission approved the construction of angler access and installation of native plantings at the creek at Bridge 31.7 by Trout Unlimited.

The Commission received a presentation from Mr. Anthony Moggio for a proposed All Abilities Park in the City of Rochester adjacent to the trail.

The Commission approved correspondence from the Trail Manager to Solaronics, Inc. regarding the license agreement.

Louis Carrio, President of the Friends of the Paint Creek Trail, provided an update of the Moutrie Pollinator Garden progress.

May

Meeting virtually, the Commission approved a Temporary Permit for the 2021 Leader Dogs for the Blind Bark and Brew 5k.

The Commission approved entering an agreement with the trail attorney to formulate new license agreements based on the Licensing Ad Hoc Subcommittee's recommendations.

The Commission approved the Recognition Ad Hoc Subcommittee's recommendation for a Labor Day Bridge Walk Recognition Ceremony and a resolution to recognize former Commissioner Rock Blanchard's 24 years of service.

The Commission discussed trail surface grading after the spring thaw.

The Commission approved the 2020 financial audit performed by Mr. Ramie Phillips, CPA.

Mr. Louis Carrio, President of the Friends of the Paint Creek Trail, announced the Moutrie Pollinator Garden Ribbon Cutting will be held June 28, 2021.

A local Eagle Scout installed a replacement kiosk at the Tienken trailhead as an Eagle Scout project.

Trail manager Ford, Assistant Trail manager Gray and Bike Patroller Dan Butterworth attended CPR/First Aid training through the Oakland Township Fire Department.

A memorial bike rack and memorial Free Little Library were installed at the Moutrie Pollinator Garden.

June

The Commission discussed the Paint Creek Trail Signage Project with regards to wayfinding signage.

The Commission discussed the 2021 Labor Day Bridge Walk event and approved donations at the event be restricted for continued maintenance of the Moutrie Pollinator Garden.

The Commission approved the addition of an audio sign at the prairie remnant in the Oakland Township section of the trail.

The Commission approved a budget amendment for the cost of recognition gifts for the Recognition Ceremony.

National Trails Day, June 5th, was recognized with a scavenger hunt on the GooseChase app from May 30 to June 5th. Seventy-seven teams signed up to participate. Trail staff and members of the Friends of the Paint Creek Trail handed out bike bells, sold PCT hats and t-shirts, and greeted trail users. The scavenger hunt winner received a gift basket filled with items from local businesses.

The ribbon cutting ceremony for the Moutrie Pollinator Garden was held Monday, June 28th.

July

The Commission received an update on the Licensing Agreements.

The Commission approved the purchase of promotional items for the Labor Day Bridge Walk event.

The Commission discussed document scanning for the Paint Creek Trail records.

Five pieces of art from the Detroit Institute of Art Inside/Out program were installed on the trail the week of July 5th. The pieces are located at Adams Road, the Clarkston/Kern parking lot, along the new Clarkston Road connector path, at the connector path to Orion/Kern Roads, and at Newton Street. They were on display until November 2021.

August

The Commission approved Temporary Permits for the Lake Orion DDA Oktoberfest Run and Turkey Trot events. The events were later withdrawn by the applicant.

The Commission received an update from Friends of the Paint Creek Trail President, Louis Carrio.

The Commission approved the purchase of a Bike Fixit Station for the Paint Creek Junction trailhead in the Oakland Township section of the trail.

The Commission approved the budget for the Bridge 33.7 Ribbon Cutting and Recognition Ceremony to be held on September 21, 2021.

The Commission received an update from Trail Manager Ford and discussed the Paint Creek Trail Signage Project, road crossing signage.

The Commission approved a contract for the split rail fence at Foley Pond in the Orion section of the trail and timber rails at Bridge 32.3.

The Commission approved the purchase of 7,500 trail brochures from a local printing company.

Trout Unlimited completed the angler access steps at Dinosaur Hill. Jean McBride, from the Friends group and a Master Gardener assisted Trout Unlimited in selection and layout of native plants for the site.

September

The Commission held the Ribbon Cutting for Bridge 33.7 and a Recognition Ceremony for six former Paint Creek Trailways Commissioners.

The Commission honored Rock Blanchard for his 24 years of service to the Paint Creek Trailways Commission with Resolution #2021-001.

The Commission approved June 4th, 2022 for the tentative Paint Creek Crawl 2022 on National Trails Day.

The Commission approved a Temporary Permit for the National Pancreas Foundation 5k Walk.

Trail Manager Ford provided an update on the Paint Creek Trail Signage Project for Road Crossing Signage and sign installation.

The Commission approved invoicing Licensees with an explanation letter addressing new license agreements.

Herbicide treatment of phragmites and knotweed by Oakland County Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMA) was completed at two locations on the trail.

A new Bike Fix-It Station was installed adjacent to JoAnn Van Tassel bridge by Orion Township staff.

October

The Commission approved a Friends of the Paint Creek Trail event to be held on National Trails Day 2022 in partnership with the Paint Creek Trailways Commission.

The Commission discussed the draft 2022 budget presented by Trail Manager Ford.

The Commission discussed updating the trail Memorial Bench policy.

The Commission discussed upcoming grant opportunities and trail capital improvement projects.

November

The Commission approved an updated Memorial Bench Policy.

The Commission approved Resolution 2021-03 establishing meeting dates for the Commission for 2022.

The split rail fence replacement at Foley Pond and timber rail approaches at Bridge 32.3 were completed.

New wayfinding signage was installed on the trail.

The Commission approved a Temporary Permit for Giffin USA's 5K Fun Walk/Run.

The Commission discussed capital improvement projects and upcoming grant opportunities.

December

Rochester City Council committed their support for the Commission's grant application to the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan for Bridge 31.7 design engineering.

Trail Manager Ford successfully submitted the Commission's application to the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan for the Bridge 31.7 design engineering project.

Trail Manager Ford began work on a grant application for Oakland County Community Grant Programs for Trails and Park Improvement.

The Commission approved a final amended budget of \$212,595.00

The Commission honored former Trailways Commissioners Clara Pinkham of Rochester Hills and Dan Simon of Oakland Township for their service to the Trailways Commission.

The Commission maintained a positive social media presence with 7,951 Facebook followers, (an increase of 619 since December 2020), 1,605 Instagram followers, (an increase of 410 since December 2020) and 822 Twitter followers, (an increase of 29 since December 2020).