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2022 Summary of Events and Accomplishments

The Commission approved Temporary Use Permits for the following events:

- Orion Veterans Memorial Day 5k – May 30, 2022 (Admin Approval)
- Run Michigan Cheap 5k, 10k, Half Marathon – June 12 and November 19, 2022 (Admin Approval)
- The New Foster Care 5k run and walk – October 1, 2022

January

The Commission welcomed three new Commission members.

The Commission approved the final amended budget for the replacement of Bridge 33.7.

The Commission discussed Ad Hoc Committee Assignments.

Trail Manager Ford received a signed Resolution of Support from Rochester City Council for the County's Trailways Grant program for the design of Bridge 31.7 and submitted the application.

Trail Manager Ford completed the application for the CISMA Invasive Species Treatment grant from Oakland County for sites in Rochester Hills and Lake Orion.

Trail Manager Ford and Chairperson Steele met with the Community Foundation of Greater Rochester and agreed to keep the Paint Creek Trailways Commission fund open for a year in order to fund raise.

Trail Manager Ford presented the Moutrie Pollinator Garden and the Trail Signage Project at the January Oakland County Trail, Water, & Land Alliance meeting.

February

The Commission finalized Ad Hoc Committee Assignments.

The Commission discussed 2022 Goals.

The final road crossing signs for the Trail Signage Project were installed.
The last of the kiosk and gateway sign replacement was completed.

Trail Manager Ford, Chairperson Steele, and Commissioner Olijnyk created a 'show your love for the trail' Valentine's Day note that was sent out to 350 Mailchimp subscribers.

March

The Commission approved Resolution #2022-001 and congratulated Trail Manager Melissa Ford for being a recipient of the Oakland County 40 under 40 Award.

The Commission discussed the future of the Friends of the Paint Creek Trail and assigned an Ad Hoc Committee to assist in planning.

The Commission discussed the National Trails Day event and approved covering the cost of stickers and markers to decorate bike helmets.

The Commission discussed fundraising ideas.

Trail staff have submitted design work for the audio sign panel at the Wet Prairie to OTPR Stewardship staff for approval.

April

The Commission discussed Resolution #2022-002 and thanked Chris Gray for all the time and effort she put into the trail.

The Commission discussed the changes in the Oakland County Sheriff's Mounted Patrol Contract and approved attorney review of the contract with an additional clause requesting quarterly reports.

Commissioner Peltier updated the Commission on National Trails Day: Tour de Trail event planning.

The Commission discussed the Memorial Donation Program Policy.

The Commission welcomed Administrative Assistant Tapia.

The Commission agreed the communities will complete trail grading of the spring thaw on May 15th.

The City of Rochester received the \$25,000 Grant for the design engineering of Bridge 31.7 from Oakland County.

Commissioner Olijnyk recorded an ad about the trail to be aired on the radio starting in May and her employer has agreed to list the PCTC as one of its featured charities for its advertising promotion with the Tiger's.

Trail staff sent the design for the Wet Prairie audio sign out for fabrication.

May

Trail staff submitted the final report for Bridge 33.7 Replacement Project to the DNR for the MNRTF Reimbursement.

The Commission received the \$50,000 grant for the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan for Bridge 31.7 design engineering.

The Commission received two \$100 donations to the Community Foundation of Greater Rochester
Orion Township and Oakland Township completed their seasonal Trail Grading.

The Commission approved the Licensing Subcommittee to review, upon completion of a formal application, Mr. Capaldi's request of a for sale sign for his home to be placed closer to the trail.

The Commission approved Resolution #2022-002 Honoring Chris Gray.

The Commission approved 2022-2024 Oakland County Sheriff's Patrol Contract.

The Commission approved the ASTI Environmental Proposal for Ecological Services for the Bridge Replacement project.

Mr. Louis Carrio, President of the Friends Group, presented a summary of Tour de Trail event planning.

Adopt-a-Trail Groups have completed their spring cleanup.

June

The Commission approved the License Agreement for the proposed Trout Unlimited project to install in-stream woody habitat on a section of the Paint Creek.

Mr. Louis Carrio and Commissioner Peltier provided a summary of Tour de Trail.

The Commission held Dine to Donate at Oat Soda in Lake Orion on June 16th.

Commissioner Peltier reported on the Dine to Donate event. A total of \$276 was raised.

The Commission approved to receive and file the 2021 Audit Report and requested Mr. Philips transmit it to the Local Audit and Finance Division of the Michigan Department of Treasury.

The Commission approved the 15th annual Labor Day Bridge Walk & Run on September 5th, 2022 with a proposed budget of \$1,500.

Trail Manager Ford submitted project plans for the SE Rochester Property to the Michigan Trails & Greenways Alliance for review by a potential donor.

Trail staff submitted a revised Declaration and Notice for the final report on Bridge 33.7 replacement.

The Commission received \$47 in donation to the fund at the Community Foundation of Greater Rochester during Tour de Trail.

The Friends Group raised \$20 for the Moutrie Pollinator Garden during Tour de Trail.

Trail Manager Ford met with a potential buyer for the Solaronics property that stated they have no problem with the Commission reclaiming its property if they complete the purchase.

The Clinton Valley and Vanguard Chapters of Trout Unlimited cleared the woody debris from Bridge 31.7 near Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve.

Trail Manager Ford met with Road Commission for Oakland County staff and design engineer to discuss the Dutton Road Bridge Replacement project overview and what it means for trail closings and the trailhead parking lot.

Commissioner Ross reported that they are working on the broken bike pumps at the Fix-it stations.

Trail Manager Ford has received two applications for the Administrative Assistant position.

ASTI Environmental performed the mussel recon and found none. They will begin the wetland delineation and the rest of the endangered species survey at Bridge 31.7.

July

The Commission observed a moment of silence for the passing of former commissioner Sharon Creps.

The Commission approved the temporary permit for the New Foster Care 5k Run on October 1st.

The Commission discussed the Labor Day Bridge Walk event.

The Commission discussed applying to the MDNR Spark grant program for the SE Rochester property and scheduled a field trip to the site to discuss the development plans for September 20th.

The Commission approved to hire Eryn Grupido as Administrative Assistant to the Commission and welcomed her to the commission.

The Commission approved the Letter of Jurisdiction for Road Commission for Oakland County Dutton Road Bridge Project.

Rochester Hills has scheduled graffiti removal from Bridge 33.3

The Commission received final reimbursement from the MNRTF grant for Bridge 33.7 and this project is now closed.

Trail Manager Ford met with the city of Rochester and the engineer from AEW to discuss the bridge project. AEW plans to begin the topographical survey shortly.

Commissioner Ross reported the bike pumps at Van Tassel Bridge will be replaced soon and the bridge repairs are done.

Trail staff installed temporary trail etiquette signage along the trail.

Trail staff completed a sign inventory and noted any graffiti/repairs to the appropriate community.

August

Trail Manager Ford reported that Oakland County Sheriff's Mounted Patrol has started scheduling patrols and will provide a report in the future.

Trail staff opened online registration for the Labor Day Bridge Walk and began advertising.

The Commission discussed the Labor Day Bridge Walk event and agreed on a motto for the promotional stickers of 'Hooked on the Paint Creek Trail'.

The Commission discussed including the Trail with Lake Orion Library and Orion Township for auditing services for 2022 and agreed to not pursue this action.

Trail Manager Ford reported that EGLE and the DNR are involved in the beach encroachment issue in Oakland Township but would like trail staff to be the main point of contact. The Clinton River Watershed has given remediation guidelines for the homeowners. Commissioner Walker thanked trail staff for following up with the encroachment beach in Oakland Township.

Commissioner Walker reported that Trout unlimited has sent letters to the homeowners along the creek north of Tienken where their habitat improvement project will be.

Commissioner Ross reported three of the four trashcans have been installed and the fourth will be as soon as its location is decided. Also that there is a new invasive species in Michigan – the spotted lanternfly.

The Paint Creek Junction opened to the public.

The Commission has been invited to join the Polly Ann Trail for its 25th Birthday Cake Walk on August 27th.

September

The Commission visited the SE Rochester property prior to the monthly meeting.

The Commission approved Resolution # 2022-003: Resolution of Support for the 2022 Paint Creek Trail Pure Michigan Trail Designation with amendments.

The Friends of the Paint Creek Trail Subcommittee reported the sustainability of the Friends of the Paint Creek Trail and provided recommendations on how to support and move forward with the Friends organization.

Trail Manager Ford updated the Commission on the turnout of the Labor Day Bridge Walk and Run and thanked all Commissioners for their help in making this a successful event.

The Commission approved to move the \$2853 raised during the Labor Day Bridge Walk into the Community Foundation as unrestricted funds.

The Commission approved the 2022 Audit RFP as presented by Trail Manager Ford.

The Commission discussed how to proceed with updating the website and the current issues.

Commissioner Elwert offered to assist with the website issues for the moment.

Trail Manager Ford submitted a pre-proposal for the SE Rochester property project to the National Fish & Wildlife Fund's Southeast Michigan Resilience Fund.

Trail Manager Ford reported the latest updates on Bridge 31.7 Design Engineering.

Trail Manager Ford met with the developers interested in the Solaronics property and was able to view some of the conceptual designs of the condos they would like to build and the return of the PCT property currently being leased to a natural state as well as a flashing beacon at the Ludlow crossing.

EGLE has reclassified the Beach Encroachment as an Order to Restore and will handle it from here.

Trail Manager Ford provided a report from Oakland County Sheriff's Mounted Patrol.

Ms. Kathy, Friends group member, cleaned the old trail map signs and assisted Trail staff in moving the signs from storage into the Trail Office.

The Commission agreed to offer two of the signs at \$250 to the people waiting to purchase them to see what their response is.

The Commission discussed finding volunteers to monitor the E-bike situation on the trail.

Commissioner Sage will mention in his city council meeting about volunteers needed to monitor the trail.

Scout Master Moo attended the meeting and mentioned he will inform the scouts of the need for volunteers.

Commissioner Walker thanked everyone for their generous contributions to the Labor Day Bridge Walk.

Commissioner Gamage and Chairperson Steele thanked everyone who came to the field trip.

Commissioner Gamage and Trail Manager Ford discussed the possibility of placing a counter at the SE Rochester property and the quote received.

Commissioner Dalrymple stated Orion finished their safe roads to school project and every 5th and 7th grader will be getting a bicycle and trail education in their classrooms.

October

The Commission welcomed Commissioner George to his first meeting.

The Commission discussed the draft 2023 budget presented by Trail Manager Ford.

Trail Manager Ford reported that the homeowner of the beach encroachment property in Oakland Township is cooperating with EGLE on restoration plans.

Adopt-a-Trail Groups performed their Fall Clean-up this month.

Trail Manager Ford made a presentation about the trail to the members of the 2022-2023 Greater Rochester Leadership Program.

Trail staff Grupido identified potential locations for trail amenities.

Commissioner Olijnyk and Mr. Louis Carrio presented their report on E-bikes on the trail and the form they developed to help the trail monitor their use.

November

The Commission approved contracting Mr. Philips for auditing services.

The Commission approved an increase to the Trail Manager's salary and one-time longevity salary.

The Commission approved a modification to the cost of website redesign in the 2023 Budget.

The Commission approved up to \$20,000 as a match for the Fisheries Habitat Grant application.

The Commission approved moving the regularly scheduled meeting up one week to provide public opinion on the Spark Grant Application.

Clinton Valley Trout Unlimited installed a replacement sign for the Stream Improvement Project at Silverbell.

Trail Manager Ford and Commissioner Gamage met with Andrea LaFontaine, Executive Director at Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance and the estate attorney for a site visit at the SE Rochester Property on November 8th. The estate attorney approved the site.

The Commission discussed the Potential Amenity Report and determined the Trail Improvement Committee will review and provide recommendations.

The Commission discussed National Trails Day 2023 and the Paint Creek Junction Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Trail Manager Ford submitted a preproposal for the Fisheries Habitat Grant.

The Commission discussed the Solaronics property.

The Commission agreed to sign a letter of recommendation to nominate Ms. Milos-Dale for a Park Resource Leadership Award.

The Commission congratulated Chairperson Steele on her election to State Representative.

December

The Commission maintained a positive social media presence with 9,286 Facebook followers, (an increase of 1335 since December 2021), 1,872 Instagram followers, (an increase of 267 since December 2021) and 825 Twitter followers, (an increase of 3 since December 2021).