

SAUCON RAIL TRAIL OVERSIGHT COMMISSION MEETING

Date: Monday, March 25, 2013
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Lower Saucon Township Council Meeting Room

Present: Lower Saucon Township: Jerry Holum, Roger Jurczak, Chris Garges
Hellertown Borough: Steve LaBrake, Joe Pampanin, Charles Hampton
Coopersburg Borough: Tim Paashus
Upper Saucon Township: Peter Jarrett

I. Call to Order/Roll Call – Chair

Roger Jurczak welcomed everyone and had all the representatives introduce themselves.

II. Information Items

A. Updated list of 2013 Saucon Rail Trail Oversight Commission Representatives, Term Dates

Roger said everyone received an updated 2013 list of commissioners. We have one vacancy in UST and two in Coopersburg Borough. Tim said I have some news on that. Alec Cassidy, who was a former supervisor, is going to be named at the April meeting. Steve said he called me today and apologized for not being here. He did not know he was officially on the board until he got an email today with board information. Peter said the list I sent out did not have him listed yet. Joe did send me a list that has his name on it, but that will not be official until April. I will send it out again.

Roger said Tim, could you give us an update as to what is happening in Coopersburg. Tim said yes. I want to talk to the committee and get a feel for what CB is attempting to do. Besides me, we really have nobody else that is involved. The Borough officially wants to support the Rail Trail and be a partner. They have not made a formal motion, but I believe the idea is that UST is finishing to Landis Street. They feel that unless a southern section comes up, continuing past there is not really beneficial at this point in time, but that is not an official statement. We are looking at putting in less than a block's worth of trail, which is not impossible, but we are looking at where do you park and so forth. All of those things are answered by improving the park, rather than continuing the trail, if nothing comes from the south, because it would be continuing for an extra block to a strip club, which is on the corner. We do have water lines in that area. The thought is what if we put a nice trail head at Landis Street that has a kiosk and water fountain and improve the walking trail from the parking to the actual trail head. This would all be provided by CB. Being involved in that way is more the discussion than how do we finish from Landis Street to Station Avenue. Peter said UST is bringing it to Coopersburg. Tim said correct. Peter said I agree with you. It does make sense to beef up the parking and trail access through the park. Peter said there is a meeting tomorrow night in Quakertown; is that the Upper Bucks trail commission? Roger said it is the AFC Highlands Trail. They are trying to figure out a plan to get from Nockamixon State Park to Quakertown to Milford Township and to the Perkiomen Creek. They mentioned going north into Bethlehem and coming down our trail. Peter said there was discussion in Quakertown about building the trail down to Quakertown, but I assume, at that point, you would be on board with connecting it. Tim said there would be no question in my mind at all if there was a connecting section, but ours is small. We are a small borough and I don't want to bring the public down a block that really is not in a great location. Landis Street and the park entrance is really what we would like to support. It would be a totally different pace if Springfield Township was coming up from Shelly. That is a no brainer and we could break ground tomorrow. Some people, including council members, are sitting back saying "Why are we even involved in this, at this point in time, if it doesn't make sense to continue the trail beyond Landis Street". The conversation is how can we be involved because it is good for our residents. Our residents use it now and they will use it more when it is all the way down. Roger said Landis Street is where you are thinking of having a parking lot and access. Tim said my understanding of the drawing I saw from UST is they want to

connect to an existing trail. Roger said into the park. Tim said behind the pavilion, up off of Landis Street. Tim said I was thinking of partnering with the park itself to update that because it wasn't the easiest trail to ride a bike down. They can get access to materials and build a nice trail, but that is in the Township. That is why we support the trail by adding to it. CB and its employees could help with that section and make the main entrance from the park better. The last plans I saw from UST ended there, but it is not developing that area a whole lot. Roger said if the status quo stays as you say, there won't be a linear foot in Coopersburg. Tim said correct, that is the discussion. There is a balance to supporting it. Tim said, technically, we don't have access to Landis Street on the trail. UST would have to continue beyond Landis Street or we would have to pay for UST to finish that section. The Borough doesn't start until approximately two residences in on Landis Street. If it doesn't continue from the south, we are paying UST from the north, which I think is appropriate for connection to our small section. We don't want to be hands off because our residents will use it. Roger said certainly the park is good, at this point, with what we have left. You don't want to go the other couple 100 yards to State Street because you have no place anyway. Steve said is Living Memorial Park a private entity. Tim said it is school district, Southern Lehigh. If I understand the history correctly, it is not a private entity. It was donated, with restrictions, to the school district, but it has a separate oversight and park board. It is considered a community park, owned by the school district and given as a memorial for a soldier in WWII. Tim said our involvement on the actual trail makes more sense.

Tim said if the Borough is not actually building anything on the Saucon Rail Trail, besides paying our dues, which I am more than happy to support financially, is our representation and suggestions to the Board actually relevant. Roger said I understand your situation and I want to share some of the guidance that was given to our advisory committee by the Ironton Trail committee. The Ironton Trail represents three communities. One has the money and the real estate and the other the bulk of trail. Another community is small and doesn't have the revenue. Being it's a community effort and going through all three, they said we are approaching it as three equals, despite the fact the communities are different in size. That was the philosophy of their development. Roger said I was really impressed. After we kicked around a lot of things, such as the development of how wide the trail was, what is on the trail, who is involved and how, they came back about a year later and all of that came out of the guidance of the advisory committee. There was no engineering study or master plan. It came out of logical conclusions drawn. We lost a few members based on direction, and I think we got a tremendous trail. Tim said absolutely. Roger said I have not seen any discrimination at any meeting. There are four signatures on the lease with Septa, and as far as I am concerned, we have four equal partners. The fact that the geography turns out that there is only a 1/10 of a mile in one participant doesn't matter. Tim said we never felt like the odd man out, but before I talk to council, as it is clear that ours is the smallest section, my concern is, if Borough Council makes the statement that UST is finishing Landis Street and we are not going to continue, is that acceptable at this point. I think it would be very easy for me, with the newsletter, to ask for representatives for the committee. Also, we just applied for a grant for the Liberty Trolley line to make that a joint trail with UST, which runs the entire length of the borough, to eventually wrap into the Rail Trail. We want this to be a community trail. Peter said it is logical what you are doing. Tim said part of this discussion should include what my thoughts and plans are for Landis Street. It is being refinished with a storm sewer because right now there is a gully. If we put a storm sewer there, the roadway is wider. I really don't want people walking directly on the road from the trail, but there is walk ability, which is the best light to cross 309. The plan is, once that is finished, to approach the park. We will do an asphalt trail right into the middle of town, to make it walk able, and change the light, to incorporate what we can offer than just the status quo. Roger said I would encourage you to do that.

Roger said from Water Street in Hellertown, we have a trail to Bachman Street, which is $\frac{3}{4}$ of mile, and it goes nowhere and people walk that. It is paved and scenic and clean, but it makes no logical sense. Steve said anybody from that end of town, from 711 North, uses the Bachman Street access

and there is only street parking. Joe said from my house, I have to walk about 4 blocks to get to Bachman. It is not crossing Main, there are no sidewalks along the side streets, and the traffic isn't there. Tim said we may take that direction with council members, to actually take them out to look. Roger said it's a balance. When we achieved the land in the lease, it ends at Bachman, but it wasn't cleared. They did not pull out the rails and the ties and left all the garbage there. That part of the trail, going toward Bethlehem's trail, is under a railroad lease and it is complicated. Joe said there are some geography issues. Roger said it is the concept of if you build it they will come; we are to that point. We have had problems with that end, but cleaned them up. It is an encouragement to Bethlehem to make a push on that lease, and us to do the same, to be completed and to connect us with Bethlehem. I think by the development of your small portion it will send a message to your populous that we are involved. It will encourage the development of the park and the intersection you were speaking of. When the other connections may or may not come in, you will be done and it will be behind you. Tim said good point. Roger said we have been talking about the connection to Bethlehem's greenway. Bethlehem had the money to get to their skate park, across from the casino and they have developed a mile. I am guessing they have the path in to a housing development and the Woodland Bridge. It's between that point and Saucon Park, which will get enhanced when the roadway gets finished. All these things are connectors and the Rail Trail is getting the people. Tim said our town and its members can't wait until it is a little more accessible. Steve said I would be putting a priority on your park access. Tim said but not give up the final leg of the trail. Chris said Jack's not here to speak, but I think if you get to the point of just having that small area of interest, the Township may consider doing a labor swap and maybe bring their equipment down. The Township used their equipment to pave LST and Hellertown Borough. Tim said yes, we have shared in the past. Chris said that is the cheapest way to do it. The stone and the recycled concrete are cheap. Peter said when I was interviewed for this position, the council said they would like to continue it on to Bucks County. They felt that would be the logical place to end. Tim said that is part of the balance. That council and administration changed. We have 4 council members up for reelection and/or new council members coming in November. That is why I am trying to get a grasp on how the commission looks at it, to be able to say we should head in a direction. Peter said there are two issues. One is, if we think it is a good idea what you suggested; personally I think it is a great idea. The other issue is the other couple hundred yards. Tim said do we make a formal decision because if a new council comes in, we can at least stick by some future decision. Peter said I don't think there is anything wrong with going all the way to Station Avenue. I have been on other trails, like Ironton, that just all of a sudden end. Tim said the strip club isn't the only deterrent. Let's say it would cost \$100,000.00, it wouldn't, but let's just say for now, and I would rather take that funding and do a better trailhead at this point in time. If we are going to look at what is going on, I don't want to be short sighted about the future, but right now, with minimal resources, we do have to focus our attention on that area. Peter said it would be much nicer to add a dedicated parking lot or a focal parking lot and amenities. Tim said I don't see why not. Peter said it wouldn't be much different than what UST has right now. Jerry said does the borough own that piece of property where the old railroad station was. Tim said I would have to look. Our total mileage is about 1/2mile for the whole thing. Roger said what I've heard is all encouragement to take this forward. Tim said we want to be a partner. Roger said you have the land area to do those things and it is a matter of tweaking the park. Water is there to put drinking fountains, which is a big start. Right now, we don't have a drinking fountain, other than in UST. Hellertown is talking about making improvements in the park, which is about a year or two off. Joe said 2014, at the earliest. Peter said if you can get the parking lot moving before the path gets there, you will be a step ahead of the game. You will find, if you don't have a proper trail head in place, it is going to be used and abused in a big way. Chris said in summer, people will bike to the pool. Tim said that is an interesting boundary mark. The pool is solidly in UST, but Giant is in the Borough. It cuts around and back down to the ice cream place and straight over. We are encroaching on them in the park area, but it makes sense to be able to walk to the pool, Landis Street, the baseball fields, and the Farmers Market. Roger said the press release says, "By the end of 2013 trail users will be able to enjoy the new section of the

Saucon Rail Trail"; you are on this year's calendar. Roger said we are for it. Tim said sorry to take so much time. Roger said it was well spent. We haven't heard too much and we have been focused on Phase II and now that is developed. The demand is there, the usage is there, and what we have seen, as far as the usage of the trail, is beyond what anybody anticipated. Steve said what I have seen is, exercising in Hellertown meant going out of Hellertown, uphill, and now we have this flat, wonderful path. Yes, it's getting used because there has never been anything like it. Joe said you were on the road and it was dangerous. Steve said it has grown the Farmers Market, too. It started out four vendors and now it is the second largest in the Lehigh Valley. Peter said I would recommend, for your residents' sake, you do push to do the strip down 309 and the crossing at Landis Street to that light. Tim said getting people to cross at Landis Street is safer than Station because of the in and out of Burger King and Turkey Hill. Roger said good conversation, thank you.

III. Public Comment – None

IV. Presentations / Trail Business

A. SRT Website Update

Steve said I updated the calendar with upcoming events such as the info Cathy sent me about the Farmers market, Chris's run, Hellertown Historic Day, and other events. Jerry said Roger and I met with Mr. Ruth who offered his collection of postcards to share. He has a lot of historic data that would fit into our website, as it relates to Hellertown and LST, and a little of UST. Jerry said I think some of the things we lack, to begin with, are the train stations. We don't have other stations, only Bingen. Roger said he really wants to share the whole collection with people. I think it would quadruple the pictures we have on the website. Jerry said I am sure the Coopersburg Historical Society has pictures of the train stations and other things close to there. We need someone to make that contact. Tim said I can get you that. Joe said we should update the plans for Phase II, the Hellertown Water Park, and Reading trailhead. Roger said it's on LST website. Chris said I'm not sure. Steve said I was waiting for it to get finalized before we put any plans on.

B. Rail-Trail Vision – Map Review by Section

i. Organize Subcommittee

C. Trail Vegetation Planning, Recommendations (Penn State Master Gardeners)

Roger said Erin Frederick and two master gardeners are having a meeting to formalize items to address and what part of the trail they will walk to get a feel for the invasive vegetation. They have reached out to Saucon Watershed and Charles Hampton. I will have more information in April.

D. Update on LST Trailhead Construction

Chris said the water line will be run and capped next week. It could be next month until they get started, depending on how a couple of other projects fall. When we begin working on it, the trail head will get closed and notices will be put out. Jack will get all the information so we can put it on the website and Facebook page. Steve said two weeks. Chris said a couple of weeks.

E. UST Phase II Awarding of Contract

Roger said see the Phase II press release. Peter said Joe G. gave me some more information. He said last Wednesday they had the preconstruction meeting with Semmel Excavating. They are ready to start. He said Semmel gave them the indication that they will be working on it, weather permitting. It could be late summer, even earlier, if weather falls into place, to open next June, but that seems ambitious. Peter said Joe G. said it will cost approximately \$460,000.00 for the two miles.

F. Water Fountain Donations

Jerry said are there any updates to the contributions for the water fountain. Steve said I see on the report it is \$580.00. Chris said I am a board member of LV Roadrunners. They issue grants for a

multitude of different youth and long distance running in the valley. I spoke with the President of the Board about getting some form of donation from them. He said we would need to submit a grant application and have the board vote on it. Chris said before I filled it out on my own, I wanted to ask the commission if it is ok. I was thinking about applying for \$1500.00. Roger said that would be great. No one opposed. Chris said it is not a guarantee, but they are typically very generous. Roadrunners leads a running group on Tuesdays from the UST trail and a couple board members have kids running on it. Last year, we looked at some way to provide water, but could not come up with a solution. Chris said I have no problem filling it out and getting it on the board meeting for April. Roger said would you be our advocate. Chris said certainly.

Roger said the Farmer's Market starts in Hellertown in about two weeks. Steve said May 5th. Roger said can we get a graphic out there so people can see we are looking for water fountain donations. Joe said for the kiosk or are you thinking of a table. Roger said should the grant Chris talked about come through, we are still approximately \$1500.00 short. Peter said what is the price again. Roger said \$3700.00. Steve said as far as the material, Jack has the graphic. If we had a bunch of them on a table it would attract attention. Roger said perhaps a sign showing a thermometer, saying here's where we are and here is where we want to be. I don't think we have gotten enough of the word out and the visual graphics will help. Steve said we meet once more before the market opens and I will try to come up with something.

Steve said I keep getting asked, if LST is putting so much money into it, why did they not allocate for a fountain. Charles said because it was expensive already.

V. Miscellaneous Business Items

A. Minutes of February 25 Meeting

Joe said Joe G. sent an email that this meeting was listed as Hellertown Borough instead of Lower Saucon Township. Jerry made the motion to accept; second by Charles. All in favor.

B. February Financial Report

Jerry said have we received the \$1000.00 from all the townships and boroughs now. Roger said yes. Roger said all municipalities have made the 2013 donation and Coopersburg is paid in full. Steve made the motion to accept; second by Charles. All in favor.

C. Bills to Pay (if any) – None

VI. Public Comment / Citizen Non-Agenda Items – None

VII. Commissioner Individual Statements & Updates

A. By Municipality

Tim asked what is the best way to pick representatives; should I advertise on the website or hand pick certain people for the two vacancies. Charles said I saw it on our newsletter and I applied. Tim said is there a potential to put it on the Rail Trail website if I send something over. It is embarrassing to have vacancies and not be represented. Chris said we could put it on the Facebook page, too. Jerry said do they have to be a resident of that community. Roger said I can tell you that Perry made a comment to me that she is really not a resident of Coopersburg. I don't know if that is accurate or not, but she seemed to have interest in being UST's representative and she has a Coopersburg address

Chris said Jack found this in the paper about the trail. When he went to the website, it had the Saucon Rail Trail listed at Lower Saucon Creek Park, 3700 W Walnut Street, Bethlehem. We got in touch with Google and will try to get it straightened out that way. Steve said Google maps misnamed Water Street Park, too.

Steve said I received an email from Capital Blue Cross to do an informal interview regarding the Rail Trail, which I said yes, but it turned out to be a video and book for the Move Naturally campaign. It talks about active communities and how people tend to live longer and that the Saucon Rail Trail and Bethlehem Greenway projects are strongly aligned with the Move Naturally concept. Steve said I just wanted to make sure no one has any issue with me doing it. Roger said I am surprised we have not seen more interest from the medical community. Charles said wasn't someone going to talk to St. Luke's Hospital. Roger said when the water fountain came up, I went for my annual physical at Hellertown, who is part of St. Luke's, and I gave him a copy of the handout on our website. Steve said Dr. Dougherty from St Lukes rehab and Dr. Salan was presenting it as well. Charles said is there something in the organizational chart that says we cannot promote a company; we can't use a commercial theme in anything we do. Roger said that was the case in the memorial benches. There is a specific clause in our charter that says individuals can represent benches but they cannot be used for advertising purposes. Steve said it cannot become the "Capital Blue Cross Saucon Rail Trail". Roger said when we did the mile markers that was volunteer fundraising apart from the Rail Trail organization.

Pete said I am interested in trail tenders and a separate organization "Friends of the Trail". One of the benefits is they have the ability to raise and spend money as they see fit. We have not talked about that in months.

Roger said information that has come across my desk, officially or unofficially, was to support putting up signage for the vendors in the various municipalities. I stated the fact that we discussed that early on and it is not something we wanted to do. We do not want billboards and one ad after the other. Steve said if we have a group or organization that makes a sizable donation I don't see why that could not be acknowledged in some way, on a fountain or any improvement we do. Roger said we have a modest 2x4 plate on the mile marker and the benches have a plate which is four times the area and that is pretty much it. What we have is very low key and information is in the kiosk. No one is lighting the trail with advertising. Joe said at the BBRP meetings, they are talking about what you are suggesting, a little more directional signage and a "Soon to be entering Hellertown" sign at Mountain Drive. The issue that came up with that sign was, if particular businesses would buy slots, it was considered advertising. We didn't want to approach LST with a sign that was more advertising than welcoming. As we develop Water Street Park, there may be an opportunity to get the directional sign you are talking about.

Pete said when I first came on the website was the big issue and there was a big push to get that up and running. Maybe every year we should take on a number one cause because we talked about the vegetation issue and the trail tenders "Friends of the Trail", but we need to focus on one. I know Joe had brought up months ago that there are certain sections we want to keep primitive and others we don't mind if there are plantings. We need to start to delineate that. Roger said the goal is to get the planting expertise of the master gardeners' and to get a plan of how to go about it. I think the idea "Friends of the Trail", was if that develops through community involvement and if they don't feel this is the venue to use that, it would be outside of our view. Roger said we've also put up, a few times, where the stations are and the restoration of some, or all, of the rail related equipment that still stands. I would think that putting an action plan in that direction would get developed some time during this year.

Steve said regarding the historic markers we spoke about last month, John from PA Highlands sent me information on the PL signs. They are beautiful signs and they send you two of each one in case one is damaged.

Peter said we had a cleanup in April last year and we don't have anything set up. Roger said we are waiting on the feedback from the master gardeners'. The feeling from the initial meeting I had

with them was we had it to early. They also said you may want to have more than one because of blooming times.

Jerry said in lieu of the announcement of Phase II, did UST have input from citizens as it relates to the butting properties next to the Rail Trail. Charles said I know there was a concern in Center Valley with the elevation of the trail and the adjacent homes. If I recall, there are some places at the intersection you can look right in second floor windows, so there would be a need of significant fencing and planning. Jerry said was that a result of UST beforehand or as a result of the people contacting UST. Chris said I believe Joe G. said they went out and talked to residents in advance.

Jerry said a project I am working on, is to identify all the grist mills in the Saucon's near the trail and put that on the website. I recall Jack took offense to it, in that he did not want people leaving the trail and going down the roads that do not have sidewalks, for example, Meadows Road. There is a mill right next to the intersection and he felt that it was a safety issue. If I continue this and put it on the website it is conflicting; should I do it or not. Roger said I would suggest before anything gets on the website, put it together and submit it to the committee. State that you are developing it for the website and that you are submitting the historic information. Then you have a hard copy of what has been done. Jerry said I am not sure if I made it clear. As a result of making this laundry list of mills, you would have people getting off the trail and walking down the road. I know we have a rule no going on private property, but it may be a conflict. Roger said the mill you are referring to is on a public road. The danger aspect may or may not be after review by the township and the police. If they say it is problematic, then so be it, but your research is valuable. Roger said we have a page on the website that you and Jennifer put together that has received positive feedback. Everything will be reviewed before going on the website.

Steve said this is the signage email. They use 3ft x 4ft signs. AMC has used a high profile 3ft x 4ft sign for interpretive purposes. If you are considered part of the D&L corridor, it would mean a 50/50 share with the D&L National Heritage corridor clause. We might see a 50/50 share with D&L. Regardless, AMC is working on a share program for signage that will be available to groups with the PA Highlands trail, which may be cheaper. There is a 24 page PDF in the email, which I will forward to everyone. There is a standard sign that is used in this area. Roger said there is a cost, about \$2400.00 for the largest sign, similar to the Hellertown Swamp sign. The single square type on a post is about half of that. It is on an aluminum base and a fiberglass top, like in national parks. The signage in Hellertown was done by a different firm, not the same firm the D&L used. Steve said the biggest sign is \$2050.00 and the low profile panel with base is \$971.00. If we get a cost share then its \$500.00. Roger said we need to get our data by location. Steve said I agree with Jerry that we need to identify the stations. That is the most historic part of the trail. Roger said there are three, Bingen, Center Valley and Coopersburg. The one in Hellertown, the curbing is still there for the on-off ramp. It would be a matter of public works going over there with a weed whacker. Steve said that might be private property. Roger said I don't think so. It is adjacent. Steve said I'm not sure whose property it is right there, it might be Hellertown Auto Parts. Roger said the multiple tenants building was built on the site of the station and they have the parking lot. The ballast is still up against the curbing. It is a matter of cleaning it up and maybe putting whitewash on it. Then you have a sign that says "This is where the train station is" and it is not interfering with anything. Roger said, Joe, can you ask Tom to take a look at that to see how big of deal that is.

Steve said if we move forward with the sign project, Jerry, would you work on the wording. Jerry said, Jack said at that meeting, that at LST's level it has to be passed by the township historian. Hellertown has a historian and I am not sure if UST has one. Roger said if you made a list and submitted it here and it got passed on to the Historical Society for their review and input, it moves the ball forward. Jerry said I don't know the dates and I'm not sure if anybody at the townships knows. Roger said I have it on the map. Jerry said when it was torn down. Roger said it's noted

on the map. Jerry said the railroad maps. Roger said yes. Jerry said all of them. Roger said I don't know about all, but Bingen Station is because that was of interest on my part. I believe in the SEPTA offices there are maps and documents we could request.

Peter said has there been follow up for the woman on Meadows Road who was asking for funds for improvements. Roger said no one has come forward. Chris said she never returned to council. Peter said when the weather is nicer and they are sitting out, maybe that will come up again. Roger said we went back to her with an answer. Chris said yes. Jerry said when you restore those cabinets, remember that some are adjacent to her property. Roger said when the master gardeners walk the trail and that issue becomes a problem, we will have to provide a barrier and a back drop. Peter said if the adjoining property owners are in agreement. Roger said if they are the ones who wish not to have the garbage trees that are there now taken down so the landmark equipment can be restored. Chris said we are talking about vegetation in the right of way not on private property. Charles said he made it clear last year he did not want anybody on his property and Jack was very aware of that. Jerry said those boxes can be relocated to a better spot on the trail so you can see them.

Peter said the property across from there has a lot of concrete accumulated on the slope. Steve said Jack mentioned he would ask his people to move it. Peter said it seems like a quick, easy clean up, especially now that the vegetation isn't there. Charles said in the summer, you don't notice it as much. They are to do some maintenance and maybe when they are at the Bingen site, they could get the loader there to take that away.

Peter said I may go to the meeting in Quakertown tomorrow. Do you want me to go as an official representative? Roger said yes.

Chris said can we review my Special Event application. It is the HCM run and the same as last year. It is on Labor Day and from Upper Saucon Park. We need the same permits from PENNDOT, the Park and Recreation committee of UST, and there will be the same road closure setup. Last year we had 330 entries and 300 finishers; 350 are expected this year. We will probably add a kid's race, more a fun run, strictly at Upper Saucon Park. It is an 8:30am start. I will probably talk to Steve again about marshalling. We will sweep and clean up as we pull our mile markers up and that is it for the trail. Roger said what is there in terms of prerace advertising along the trail. Chris said what we did last year, if it is acceptable to do again, is we had one lawn type sign at the Reading trailhead, one at Hellertown, and one at Upper Saucon, out at the road, not in the park. About a week before the event, we put notice signs up in the park to notify the public of the event and that the trail would be closed. Last year, everybody was off the trail by about 9:30am. Steve said it was an asset to the trail from the planning, to the event, to the clean up. Roger said it was. Chris said we received rave reviews about the trail from people who had not used it before. Roger said this year you will have the trailhead with a water fountain. Chris said last year, we had a water station with the cross country team of Southern Lehigh at Reading; they cleaned up. Roger said they did a wonderful job. Roger said that is where I got the input we need a port-o-john adjacent to the trail, rather than back into the woods, the way the planners originally saw it. Roger said there is nothing on here to prevent us from voting right now. Jerry said didn't you have signs on the trail itself. Chris said that was the notice sign the week before. Jerry said isn't that in conflict with what we have in the bylaws, that no signs can be on the trail. Chris said it wasn't an advertising sign, it was a warning sign. Jerry said it was a warning sign, ok. Chris said it was more a notice that the trail will be closed. The only advertising sign was a yard sign, which we had permission to put one at Water Street and one at Upper Saucon Park.

Steve made the motion to approve the HCM event; second by Jerry. All in favor. Roger said the HCM event is approved and will be forwarded to appropriate municipalities.

Roger said there is a change necessary on the web with regard to the form. Sara Pandl is no longer a contact and it should be Joe Geib. Steve said Chris, can you take care of that on the LST website. Chris said is it on LST. Steve said yes, Jack came up with the original form. Chris said ok. Joe P said nothing has been changed on forms because I just updated the list handed out tonight.

Roger said we had an Eagle Scout approach us. I met with him and his father at the LST trailhead and explained the plan and time frame. He took his application to his scout council and they rejected it because there was not a final time frame. There was no communication of that from the Eagle Scout, or his father, to me. Apparently, he has found another project. I spoke to his father last week and he said he is unsure if there is a commitment. His responsibility with that troop is to set up Eagle Scout projects and he felt he could find us a replacement. I am confident we will have the kiosk be an Eagle Scout project for LST, but I am not sure if the name will be the same. Now we can give a specific date and by the April meeting I will have an updated report.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Next Meeting

April 22 @ Hellertown Borough