

Heart of the Highlands Trail System Board Meeting Summary  
November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 10AM via Zoom

Members present: Cory Chase, Project Coordinator, Andy Dalton\*, Roger Lilly\*, Jaimey Brasselle\*, Jess Tucker\*, Brooke Andrew, Brian Sarfino\*, Dan Lehmann\*, Matt Boarman, Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Jon Bush, County Commission, Amy Cimarolli, WV Land Trust. (\*Voting members) A quorum is present.

HoH applied for a Federal Lands Access Program grant to fund the building of the Headwaters Trail from the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center to the Allegheny Trail at Canaan Valley State Park. We should hear in a couple of months. This trail has been approved by WVDNR and CVNWR. Most of the trail will be on Canaan Valley State Park land.

Dan, Andy and Cory attended the Highland Trail Foundation dedication.

A request was submitted to the County Commission for \$12,000 to help pay for our Project Coordinator. The request was tabled. We will follow up on this.

*Background: In late 2018, the Tucker County Cultural District Authority submitted a grant to Benedum to help fund, among other things, a Project Manager who would organize trail maintenance in the county and would be managed by Heart of the Highlands. In early 2019 the grant was approved. The grant included payment for the Manager for 2019-2020. The grant stated that in years following the grant other partners would be asked to fund the position including DNR, HoH, USFS, and Friends of the 500<sup>th</sup> and the County Commission.*

HoH applied for a Tucker Community Foundation Grant for signage on the Headwaters Trail. DNR has approved construction of the trail with a few requirements.

Matt Boarman reported that the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge has started laying concrete for their bike cleaning station on the Headwaters Trail (required by the DNR). They also plan to put bike repair stations at Beall and Middle Valley trails. The actual installation should occur in spring 2020.

Amy Cimarolli reported that the WV Land Trust has received 2 grants. Money will be used to improve water quality in their Yellow Creek Preserve.

Brooke Andrew from US Forest Service gave us information on 2 possible grants. We could use them to continue trail maintenance on Lindy Point or Dobbin House trails or other USFS property. They are still working on getting the NEPA completed on several trails including the Davis Trail so we can complete trail work there.

We will consider applying for 2 more grants.

We are almost out of trail maps. We will work on updating the HoH map and reprinting them.