

MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM, Inc.



NOVEMBER 4, 1990 MEMBER'S MEETING MINUTES

and
NEWS NOTES

MASON DIXON-TRAIL SYSTEM MEMBER'S MEETING

WHEN: March 3, 1991 at 2:00 P.M.

WHERE: Muddy Run Recreation Center at
Muddy Run Park.

Directions: Park is on Penna.
Route # 372 between the Susquehanna
and Route # 272 (see map). Turn
South at Park sign, go to "T" and
turn left; then right after the
guard house. The Recreation Center
is over the hill on the right.

Member's business meeting will
start at 2:00 P.M. with an early
supper following the meeting.
Members attending are encouraged
to bring a food contribution
towards supper.

MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM WORK HIKES

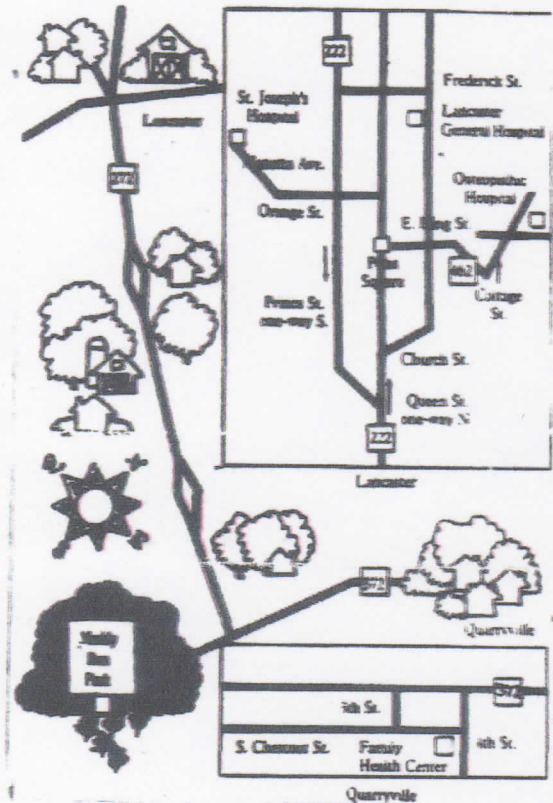
Scheduled for July 7, 1991 and August 4, 1991. Save the dates----
Where, What and Directions for meeting will be published

MINUTES NOVEMBER 4, 1990 MEMBER'S MEETING MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM

A Circle Hike covering sections of the White Clay Creek Preserve and sections of the Mason--Dixon Trail System that are near Warren and Vivian Davies home on Arc Corner Road began the November 4 events. November 4 was a pleasant late fall day, and all members who went on the hike enjoyed it.

The Davies provided us with a Chow-Mein dinner after our meeting. Delicious food, good company, and beautiful scenery! All was very much appreciated.

Attending the meeting were: Kay Way, John Wilds, Ron Gray, Rick Maerker, Vivian and Warren Davies, Robert Bennett, and John & Marie Pittenger



Kay Way, President MDTs, called the meeting to order at 4:20 P.M. The minutes of the July 8, 1990 meeting were approved as printed.

Kay noted that London Tract Baptist Church(a Trail landmark) is being purchased by the State of Pennsylvania.

TREASURER'S REPORTJohn Pittenger

John reported the balance of Mason-Dixon Trail System funds was \$2350 at the end of October. This balance is reasonable and necessary to provide for a new edition of Maps and Guides which we will need to consider having printed. We have also purchased a trail mower, and a supply of patches.

further discussion: A "verbal inventory" of Guide books and Maps in the possession of several officers indicated we had approximately 150 +/- at the end of October.

Kay Way reports she often sends out Guide Books and Maps upon request, and asks that the \$4.50 cost be sent to John, rather than delay by writing back with information about cost, where to order, etc.

It was noted that some who are willing to work on the Mason-Dixon Trail as maintainers or trail builders may not own the necessary equipment (Boy Scout troops, etc.). It was suggested the Mason-Dixon Trail System could purchase the necessary tools; (Trail Supervisor purchase and bill MDTs; as was done with the mower purchase). However, those working with these groups usually had tools to lend, and could evaluate the need.

TRAIL SYSTEMPROTECTIONBob Bennett

The ever accelerating "development" in former rural and wooded areas of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware is either causing constant Trail relocation, or is threatening the existence of our and other Trails.

Bob raised several question for future discussion, investigation and work.

1. Did we want to be part of a National Trail System?
2. Did we want to look into or be a part of the Horseshoe Trail protection plan?
3. Did we want to look into the type of protection afforded the Appalachian Trail for the MDTs?
4. Did we want to seek State (s) support for our Trail system?

TRAIL REPORTSWESTERN SECTIONRon Gray

Ron Gray has requested that he be relieved of responsibility for overall supervision of the Western Section as his current employment does not leave him with enough time to supervise the entire area.

WESTERN SECTION-
continued

Suggestion was made that the Western Section be split up into two sections.

1. Lock 12 --South to Havre de Grace
2. Lock 12--North and West

Ron Gray will continue as Trail Supervisor for MDTS from Lock 12-North and West.

Ron Gray would contact Dick Tobias to see if Dick would accept responsibility for Lock 12-South to Havre de Grace. (Kay Way reports January 2 that Dick has been contacted and will be Trail Supervisor for MDTS for the above section. Dick is now our contact for MDTS with Philadelphia Electric for that part of the Trail that crosses their property)

Kay Way reported an offer from Maryland Boy Scout John McGreevy to help with Trail maintenance in the Muddy Creek area. (Kay and Mary Bleecker have met with John and discussed with him what he and his fellow scouts could do that would be helpful.)

EASTERN SECTION
Warren Davies

White Clay Creek Preserve is restoring an old house in the preserve that will be the new Delaware Headquarters for the above, and has constructed a new parking lot, along with reconstruction of the Delaware Section of Creek Road.

Warren suggested MDTS make use of the White Clay Creek Preserve trails. This suggested move is entirely in Delaware, and hikers would avoid walking a mile on Chambers Rock Road; the road can still be used in case of high water. The trail starts above the State Line, moves along White Clay Creek to Chambers Rock Road, and continues along the Creek to the front of Delaware Headquarters; then meanders through a wooded section. It would be a reasonable move to blaze the section as it parallels the road. All agreed to move the Trail as suggested.

OTHER SUGGESTED
CHANGES

Warren asked, Do we want to consider moving our Trail past the Corner Stone? There is a Carpenter Park loop to this area.

Bob Bennett asked if MDTS would be interested in a possible route across 896?

Bill Cawthray and Yvonne Blades have been scouting MDT from Susquehanna State Park to underneath I-95 Bridge.

Yvonne Blades has scouted the wooded area. Suggested "Bad Area" from bridge to shooting range.

EASTERN SECTION
continued

Rick Maerker reports Mr. Hal Haskell (land owner) is willing to have M.D.T.S. relocate a section of our trail over his land. This possible move would allow us to "get off the roads" for a segment of the Mason-Dixon Trail. Kay Way and Rick Maerker will scout possible changes. The M.D.T.S. members expressed appreciation for the offer.

HIKING, TRAIL
and
other OUT-DOOR NEWSWILMINGTON TRAIL
CLUB
ANNUAL END TO END

The annual Brandywine Trail End-to-End Hike, sponsored by the Wilmington Trail Club is March 16, 1991. The registration deadline is MARCH 2, 1991. If you care to register, send check payable to the Wilmington Trail Club (\$8.00 for WTC members, \$10.00 for non-members) to: [REDACTED] Any questions? Call Wayne at [REDACTED]

AMERICAN HIKING
SOCIETY

The American Hiking Society published two requests for Outdoor Volunteer help.

1. A request for Volunteers to serve in National Parks, Forests, and other public lands from those who "have spare time" such as retirees, etc.. For information contact: [REDACTED]
2. Another program is Volunteer Vacation in American Parks and Forests. For information contact: [REDACTED] AHS Volunteer Vacations [REDACTED]
Tel: [REDACTED]

OUR ENVIRONMENT
and
OUR TRAILS

Pennsylvania House Bill 1567, which was designed to "limit land owner liability" for public use of their land(trails, etc.) died on November 21---"victim --as were many bills--of the Pennsylvania legislative end of session log jam". Marion Schultz, Rick Maerker, and Kay Way have written Pennsylvania legislators to inform them of M.D.T.S. support for this bill. Perhaps another try in 1991????????

New Castle County Council is to be commended for its emergency action (as reported in the News Journal Dec. 12, 1990) in stopping the harvesting of trees North of Route 40. This action was taken to protect the flood plain and stream bed of Matson Run in particular, but should give badly needed protection to other streams in New Castle County. M.D.T.S. encourages New Castle County Council to make this emergency law permanent.

(4)

1991 DUES NOTICE ENCLOSED

A stamped, return envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Your response by return mail will conserve great amounts of our volunteer energy on this project. Your return envelope is an important part of your 1991 file. Thanks!