

KENTUCKY RECREATIONAL TRAILS AUTHORITY MINUTES

March 16, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

Paul Sawyer Public Library
319 Wapping Street
Frankfort, Kentucky

Members Present: Virginia L. Grulke, Chair; Dennis E. Crowley; E. Lee Davis; Don R. Gibson; Oran Little, Ph.D.; Preston McLain; Kim Nelson; Jenny Sewell; Jeffrey D. Spainhour; Mark Cramer, Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (DFWR) (designee); and Lynn Soporowski, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (designee)

Members Absent: Ronald D. Cardwell, Vice Chair; Debra K. Balliet; Mark Barrow; Wanda D. Bedard; Tim Cody; Patrick Collins; Gregory Rankin; Sandy Runyon; Jenny Sewell; Matt Sawyers, Deputy Secretary, Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet (TAHC) (designee); Karen Wilson, Energy and Environmental Cabinet (designee); Kristen Branscum, Department of Agriculture (designee); and J. Michael Brown, Secretary, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet or designee

Guest and Staff Present: Robert Fraley, Kentucky Outdoors Sportsmen Alliance, Inc.; Joel Little, Veteranville; Darlene D. Gardner, CMW Architects & Engineers; Kay Berggren, Kentucky Travel Industry Association; Becky Raff, Kentucky Resources Council; Jodie McDonald, Department for Local Government; Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet Staff: Elaine Wilson, Executive Director of Adventure Tourism; Seth Wheat, Intern; and Mary Jean Atchison, Executive Secretary

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Grulke, Chair, welcomed everyone and recognizing a quorum present she called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Grulke asked for a motion to approve the Minutes. Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the Minutes of the April 28, 2010 Kentucky Recreational Trails Authority (KRTA) meeting; seconded Mr. Crowley. Motion carried by a voice vote.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Membership: Ms. Grulke announced KRTA has five new appointments: Mark C. Barrow, Kentucky Farm Bureau – Western Kentucky; Wanda D. Bedard, Kentucky Motorcycle Association; Tim Cody, Kentucky Motorcycle Association; Don R. Gibson, Coal Industry – Eastern Kentucky; Gregory A. Rankin, County Judge / Executives of the Commonwealth; and three reappointments: Lee Davis, Kentucky Horse Council; Dennis E. Crowley - State or National Hiking or Backpacking Organization; and Ronald D. Cardwell, ATV Association. She welcomed the returning and new members.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Wilson gave the Executive Director's Report which is attached to Minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trail Development: Mr. Crowley reported the Committee has researched information about trail builders and found Professional Trail Builders Association (PTBA) website which listed all certified trail builders in the United States. Kentucky does not a member. It appears in order to become a member, the Association looks at the builder's projects previously completed and their experience to become certified. It was discussed as to when you would use a professional trail builder; the factors would depend on the standards you require and to what expense. PTBA

KENTUCKY RECREATIONAL TRAILS AUTHORITY

MINUTES, March 16, 2011

Page Two

partners in the National Trails Training Partnership (NTTP) www.govtech.com, in a private-sector partnership agreement to promote trails training and exchange of trails resource information. Federal agencies and American Trail have joined to promote trail-related training.

Ms. Grulke suggested KRTA contact in-state trail builders and encourage them to become a member of PTBA. The membership spoke in favor of the suggestion.

Ms. Soporowski stated the Division of Planning (Kentucky Transportation Cabinet) has a website that gives information for biking and walking trails. (www.bikewalk.ky.gov).

Trail Management: No report

Trail Education: No report

Finance Committee: See attached report. Mr. McLain stated these items are suggestions and the Committee is open to other suggestions or ideas.

Dr. Little made a motion to accept the report and encourage to the Committee to proceed; seconded by Mr. Spainhour. Motion carried by voice vote.

Board Management Committee: No report.

Legislative Committee: Dr. Little reported the Committee determined their purpose is:

1. to be the coordinating body
2. structure
3. endorse the way a bill as written or voice concerns

Senate Bill (SB) 10 - Mountain Trail Authority and SB 61 - Rhodes incentive bill for landowners who provide land for recreational trail use were bills we did not agree with the wording and ask that changes be made. We were informed it was "dead in the water" this 2011 Extraordinary Session. The Governor's Office would not support the bill because the agenda was full for the short session.

OLD BUSINESS

Trail Standards to be used by KRTA: Ms. Grulke suggested a news release be done regarding the Trail Standards. She stated every time KRTA makes a significant step forward it should be reported in a press release.

Trail Master Plan Taskforce Update – Ms. Wilson showed a map with existing trails and spoke of the plan to connect the trail going north and south and those going east and west.

NEW BUSINESS

Events for 2011: See attached list and it will be posted on the website. Ms. Wilson asked the members to notify her of any events so they may be posted.

Special Task Force for Legislative Changes in 2012: Ms. Grulke stated this is taking the Legislative Committee and expanding it. As a result of some of the legislation that passed / not passed in the 2011 Extraordinary Session a lot of

KENTUCKY RECREATIONAL TRAILS AUTHORITY
MINUTES, March 16, 2011
Page Three

work is needed to prepare for the 2012 Regular Session. She suggested to the Legislative Committee that they add the chairs of all the other committees as part of the Task Force.

Tasks include:

1. Define any problems that exist for the current KRTA statute and formulate changes to make KRTA more productive.
2. Add an amendment to the current KRTA statute to create regional entities that are relatively autonomous but have a reported line to KRTA.
3. Add regional chairs to the KRTA membership.
4. Craft language to handle the permitting fees relative to the regions.
5. Add training and education components to the permitting language.
6. Determine ways to address the liability issues for private landowners.
7. Review bills that were proposed to the 2011 Extraordinary Session and address the changes we need to resolve the issues addressed in these bills.
8. Identify legislators (with respect to region, committee membership and past support) that are key to getting these bills sponsored and passed in both the House and Senate.
9. Identify other stakeholder organizations and agencies whose support we will need for passage of the bill.

Mr. Collins will be the chair. Ms. Sewell state she would like to join the Special Task Force.

Kentucky Recreational Trails Summit: Ms. Grulke suggested KRTA sponsor a summit; which is an excellent way to bring “everyone” together. She feels members should consider the possibility.

USER GROUP REPORTS

The members heard from the Equine and Hiking representatives.

OTHER BUSINESS

Membership List: Ms. Grulke requested an updated membership list; which will be emailed to the members.

Meeting Materials: Ms. Grulke would set a goal that any materials such as committee and user reports, informational material, etc. necessary for the upcoming meetings be sent to Mary Jean Atchison one week prior to each meeting. Ms. Grulke asked that all committee reports be sent to her first, one week prior to the next meeting, for review and she will then send to Ms. Atchison.

Guest Comment: Mr. Fraley commended the members for a very informative meeting. He has attended past meetings and is impressed the way KRTA is being conducted.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Grulke with no further business to conduct opened the floor for a motion of adjournment. Mr. Gibson made a motion to adjourn the meeting until May 25, 2011; seconded by Mr. McLain. Motion carried.