

MINUTES OF
ROSE VALLEY EAC
MEETING OF JANUARY 24, 2023

Attendance:

EAC Voting Members: Leonard Busby, Chair; Katie Rubin; Byron Sherwood; Ron Ploeg

EAC Associate Members: Peter Howell

Other Attendees: Bill Hale (Mayor)

Call to Order:

Leonard called the meeting to order at 7:39 pm.

Approval of Minutes for Meetings of August 23, 2022:

Ron moved to approve these minutes. Byron seconded. Katie abstained. Approved by vote of Leonard, Ron, and Byron.

Update on Moravian tiles for trail markers and other trail matters:

Peter shared that he had looked into using the “Story” group for the creation of a GPS route map for the Saul Preserve trails. This form of map — branded and developed by the Story group — would be accessible through the existing QR code that appears on the Saul Preserve map now posted in the Saul Preserve kiosk. Peter explained that the content of the information to be included on this form of map, including, for example, narratives about historic and natural points of interest in the Preserve as already reflected on the existing map, would be created here in Rose Valley and then entered into the GPS route map available from the Story group. The Story group charges a fee of \$495 to place the information into the GPS route map and then charges an additional sum of \$99 per month for as long as the GPS route map is maintained.

The idea of incurring this level of expense was discussed and not supported by those present.

Update on Deer Management:

Leonard reported that Justin Franks had harvested one buck and four does from the Todmorden Woods Preserve. Leonard said that Justin had informed him that even if he, Justin, had been able

to obtain more tags for does this year, he would not have been able to harvest any additional does, in part because a dog owned by new residents living in a property adjoining Todmorden Woods had been scaring away the deer from what had been an optimal hunting location for Justin in previous years.

Report on “The Next 100 — Crafting a Sustainable Future:

Katie informed the group that the first meeting for this initiative will take place on January 31, 2023, at The School in Rose Valley, starting at 7:30 pm. Katie explained that she had created a QR code with a link specifically for this initiative; 30 people have so far signed up (23 in person and 7 by Zoom).

Per Katie, Amy Garfunkel will serve as Secretary for the upcoming January 31 meeting in order to take notes and list action items.

Katie also shared the following about the January 31 meeting: Dave Firm is scheduled to talk about the National Wildlife Federation habitat certification program as something that Rose Valley Borough can qualify for by recruiting a sufficient number of people who satisfy the criteria for healthy habitat on their own property; Ryan Berley of the Rose Valley Museum will talk about the history of the arts and crafts movement in Rose Valley and the early traditions in Rose Valley of connecting with nature; a web page or cite will be developed and sustained during this year for this initiative; kid friendly activities are planned for later in the year; also tree giveaways

There was a unanimous expression of appreciation for all of Katie’s planning and effort in support of this initiative.

Discussion of Social Media Policy and Website Posting Policy for Rose Valley:

Leonard noted that this is a project on which Dave Firm is working and will report about at a future meeting. Katie expressed an interest in posting information on the front page of the Borough’s existing website about The Next 100 initiative.

After discussion it was agreed that, pending the adoption by Borough Council of a formal policy, Leonard would work with Dave and Katie to assure as best as possible that the Borough’s interests would be protected as regards whatever would be posted on the Borough’s website involving The Next 100, or otherwise relating to matters connected to the EAC.

Update on the EAC /Gardeners of Rose Valley Annual Native Plant Sale:

Leonard reported on Cindy’s behalf that good progress was being made in preparing for this year’s sale that has been scheduled for April 15.

Update as regards expressions of appreciation to the Borough because of the EAC:

Leonard reported that he had prepared, signed, and had arranged for mailing by the Borough Manager's office, formal letters of appreciation from the Borough (and on behalf of the EAC) to the people who had made charitable gifts to the Borough during 2022 because of the efforts of the EAC. The people who made those gifts were acknowledged by those present with a unanimous expression of appreciation.

Old and New Business:

Katie suggested that the EAC look into the benefits of enrolling in a Community Choice Aggregation ("CCA") program for the purchase of electricity by Rose Valley residents and businesses; people and businesses that did not want to participate would be free to opt out.

Adjourn:

Upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Busby,
Acting Secretary