

NEW YORK STATE TRAILS COUNCIL MEETING
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Meeting Held Virtually via WebEx
April 10, 2021 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Council Attendance:

4-Wheel Drive – Todd Syska

All-Terrain Vehicles – Jeff Binga

Equestrian – Carol Schmelz, Bill Lasher, Dan Gruen

Hiking – Donna Chapman, Michaela Aney, Stephanie Campbell (alt)

Nordic Skiing –

Off-Highway Motorcycles –

Off-road Bicycling – Samantha Langton, Michael Vitti

On-road Bicycling – Ivan Vamos, Harvey Botzman

Running –

Snowmobiles – Dominic Jacangelo

Snowshoeing –

Universal Access – Denis Livsey, Jason Thurston

Water Trails – Tom Casey (portion)

ECNHC – Mona Caron

FHWA -

National Park Service –

HRV Greenway – Beth Campochiaro

NYS Canal Corporation –

NYSDEC –

NYSOPRHP – Tom Hotaling

NYS DOT – Karen Lorf

PTNY – Dylan Carey

Guests: Kathy Nolan, Catskill Mountainkeeper

Call to Order & Welcome:

Meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM. Roll was called for attendance.

Correction/Approval of Minutes of October 17, 2021:

No motion was made, minutes were not approved. (approval needed at upcoming October meeting)

Announcements:

Samantha Langton noted new delegate nominees. Those present gave a brief introduction and were welcomed.

- Jason Thurston, Universal Access
- Michaela Aney, Hiking
- Stephanie Campbell, Hiking (alternate)
- William Cook, Snowmobiling (not present)

Delegate Report Q&A:

Delegates submitted written reports electronically prior to the meeting. (attached) No questions were raised.

New Business:

- Mona Caron presented on the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor's (ECNHC) new Water Trail Stewardship Program. <https://eriecanalway.org/explore/watertrail/stewardship>
- Thomas Hotaling provided information on the Full Funding RTP Act and asked for feedback on the revised RTP Grant rating criteria for the 2021 CFA round circulated prior to the meeting. A lengthy discussion ensued around motorized trail uses & user groups, and the potential eligibility of motorized project applications.
- Samantha L. and Mike Vitti and others discussed nuances of the NYS Bond Act excluding/including natural surface trails. Mike said he had a letter from the Professional Trailbuilders Association noting the longevity of trails and that he would share it with the group.
- Dominic J. discussed the new regulation by the DEC to extend bow and muzzleloader season in the southern zone of NY. Samantha suggested that the Trails Council send a letter advocating for a change to the regulation and the group agreed.
- Dan Gruen brought up an issue with DEC Region 7 WMAs being closed to equestrians. Wondering why this was the case. Dan asked how to get information on upcoming Unit Management Plans, rules, and regulations.
- Carol Schmelz read her equestrian report.
- Dylan Carey presented an update on the PTNY Trail Towns effort on the Genesee Valley Greenway. Effort seeks to create a Trail Towns program in 11 communities along the GVG corridor.
- Jeff Binga provided information on OHV agreement with Allegany County.
- Jason Thurston inquired on accessible trails and is looking forward to promoting more of these type of trails with the Council.

Next meeting: October 16, 2021, 10:30 AM **In-person/virtual meeting TBD.**

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:54am