

RATC Board Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2016

Witcher residence, Daleville, VA

In attendance:

Board members: Bruce Agnew, Blanche Brower, Diana Christopulos, Carina Hughes, David Jones, John Miller, Bob Peckman, Susan Powell, Jim Webb, Homer Witcher, Therese Witcher, Brendle Wolfe

Meeting was called to order by Diana at 8:00.

Future meeting dates and locations:

July 11	Location TBD
Aug	<i>No meeting in August</i>
Sep 12	Location TBD
Oct 3	Location TBD
Nov 14	Location TBD

Minutes of previous meeting: Not all board members had received the minutes for the May 9 board meeting. It was decided to review the May 9 minutes and approve them at the July 11 board meeting

Treasurer's Report (Blanche Brower):

Financial activity since last board meeting (full report attached at the end of the minutes):

Total in Checking	\$19,275.77
Total Assets	\$33,780.93
Receipts	\$4,326.71
Expenditures	\$440.25

(Included in the total assets are designated funds as follows \$4,905.03 for the Pine Swamp Shelter and \$1,470.48 for the McAfee Task Force)

President's Report (Dianna Christopulos):

- Mountain Valley Pipeline update
Diana's picture from Angel's Rest showing the viewshed impact was added to the USFS report
After visits to the proposed AT/ Mountain Valley Pipeline crossing the USFS and the ATC have declared that the crossing is inappropriate because it is 1) too close the trail and 2) it violates ATC policy
- LL Bean Grant
The grant was funded
Article about the grant was published on the front page of the *Roanoke Times*
- RATC board's legacy to the AT
What can we do to improve the RATC?
 - Grow our membership
 - Use digital resources: Facebook, Meet-up
 - New leadership
 - Find new people to serve
 - Find your replacement
 - Find people comfortable with digital media

New RATC Brochures

Passed around old brochure

Showed draft of new brochure

Therese made a motion to print 500 new brochures, Bruce Agnew seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed

The old brochures needed to be replaced primarily because the amounts listed for dues are now incorrect. In addition, the map is inaccurate. The old brochures will be recycled.

Trail Supervisor's Report

The new kiosk at the McAfee knob parking lot is completed

Mason Cobbler will build and install another kiosk on the McAfee Knob service road for an Eagle Scout project. Plans to work on this kiosk the first week of July

The loop trail at the summit of McAfee Knob that was proposed at the May RATC board meeting will not be opened

The locks on the RATC equipment sheds at Roger Holnback's residence and at the USFS Eastern Divide service yard in Blacksburg have been replaced and both locks are keyed the same. The district ranger of the Eastern Divide has requested a copy of the key. There was some discussion as to why he would need a key to the shed that belongs to the RATC and all the contents belong to the RATC. It was suggested that a sign be posted on the shed with contact information for RATC representatives.

A new sign was posted at Dragon's Tooth giving directions to the parking lot

Work was done on the AT south of Route 220. Turnpike was installed to remedy a wet muddy section

Two work hikes were done on the Sinking Creek relocation

There has been no report from the USFS as to the status of the hazardous tree at Pine Swamp shelter

There will be a regular work hike on the first Saturday of the month lead by Bruce Agnew

Conservation Supervisor's Report

Butch Kelly was not in attendance

There was no report

When queried about any work being done, Diana said that the VARO of the ATC is leading work trips to the Burress tract to eliminate invasive species

Membership Report

2 renewal memberships

5 new memberships and 4 new memberships from Troutville Trail Days

441 total members

Troutville Trail Days did not have much activity, there was not a big turnout, the weather was hot and humid and then it rained

Anticipate better turnout at the Get Outdoors Day, Saturday, June 11. Bruce Agnew will be at the RATC table all day.

Shelter Supervisor's Report

Bear problem at Lamberts Meadow

Will be installing bear boxes at Lamberts Meadow tent site, Lamberts Meadow shelter, Campbell shelter, and Catawba shelter

Lamberts Meadow will remain closed to camping till the boxes are installed

Boxes are heavy, will use mechanical means to transport the boxes as close to the shelters as possible

Budget

Total cost	\$4585.55
Va Game & Inland Fish.	(3500.00)
Dave Horst (RATC member)	(500.00)
RATC Shelter Budget	(585.55)

There was discussion about how this project was an ideal topic to share with the club and to present at tabling events to show what the club does to serve the AT and by presenting this project it provides an opportunity to request donations for the RATC

Also having bear problem at Wilson Creek shelter—will consider putting bear boxes at other locations

New roofs will be installed at Pickle Branch, July 9 & 10, and at Bailey Gap, August 20

Hikemaster's Report

Suggested to eliminate the hike schedule from the Trail Blazer newsletter

Instead of a hike schedule a notice would direct members to the on line Meet-up group where all of the RATC hikes are posted

There was discussion as to whether to eliminate the entire hike schedule or to have a limited hike schedule with work hikes and perhaps one 113 mile hike a month

Trail Blazer Editor's Report

Need information about the new work hikes on the first Saturday of the month

Need information for updating the back page of the newsletter

Requested write-ups or stories for the Trail Blazer. There was discussion that additional articles would make the Trail Blazer more interesting

Digital Media Report

Erin is taking on more responsibility for tying our various digital tools/methods/forms/etcetera together

Meeting adjourned at 8:38

**RATC
Treasurer's Report Info for Minutes
6/6/16**

Balance in Checking as of :	6/6/16	\$19,275.77
Bequest from Robert L. Trimpi Trust//Pine Swamp Shelter***	6/6/16	\$4,905.03
McAfee Task Force Fund !!!	6/6/16	\$1,470.48
ATC LL Bean Grant VT Leave No Trace***	6/6/16	\$4,000.00
Total Assets as of:	6/6/16	\$33,780.93
Total Equity as of:	6/6/16	\$33,780.93

**** Amounts are included in balance in checking
!!!Amount included in checking for McAfee Task Force Only**

Net Loss for Period:

Total Income During Period: \$4,326.71

Significant Items

Dues	\$135.00
Donations 160.00	
Roanoke Valley Gives Fund Raiser	
Receipts Donation Box McAfee (/Tinker (0)	
Stickers(\$2.50 each)	\$ 2.50
Patches RATC (\$5)	\$10.00
Patch 113 Mile (\$3)	\$9.00
T-Shirt (\$20) 0.00	
Hat (\$10)	
Amazon Smile	\$5.00
Interest Income - Savings	\$0.09
Interest Income – Checking	\$0.12
Refund Service Charge	\$5.00
Interest Income-CD -Yearly Int. 2015	
Extra from PayPal	
ATC LL Bean Grant VT Leave No Trace	\$4,000.00

Total Expense During Period: \$440.25

Significant Items

Treasurer of Roanoke County/Hollin's Library-council mtg.	\$10.00
Sir Speedy (blazers-281)	\$274.88
Handy John Handy Rentals (2 Port-a-Johns McAfee Knob)	\$130.00
Brendle Wolfe (New Member packets/print paper)	\$25.37