

NEW YORK STATE TRAILS COUNCIL MEETING
Meeting Held Virtually via WebEx
October 15, 2022 10:30 am – 3:00 pm

Council Attendance:

4-Wheel Drive – Todd Syska

All-Terrain Vehicles –

Equestrian – Carol Schmelz, Bill Lasher

Hiking – Donna Chapman, Michaela Aney

Nordic Skiing –

Off-Highway Motorcycles – Tim Hutchinson

Off-road Bicycling – Michael Vitti, Doug Eli

On-road Bicycling – Ivan Vamos, Harvey Botzman

Running –

Snowmobiles – Jennifer Senf, Bill Cook

Snowshoeing –

Universal Access – Jason Thurston

Water Trails – Mike Prescott

ECNHC – Mona Caron

FHWA -

National Park Service –

HRV Greenway – Beth Campochiaro

NYS Canal Corporation – Shelby Moore

NYSDEC – McCrea Burnham

NYSOPRHP –Tom Hotaling, Chris Morris, Nicole Unser

NYSDOT – Karen Lorf

PTNY –

Guests:

Call to Order & Welcome:

Meeting was called to order at 10:34 AM. Roll was called for in-person and virtual attendance.

Correction/Approval of Minutes from October 16, 2021:

Harvey asked for corrections to the minutes- Ivan V made a motion, Mike Vitti seconded. Motion carried with none opposed- minutes approved from 04/09/2022.

New delegate introductions and acceptance

- Doug Eli, Off-Road cycling nominee, introduced himself and provided background.
- Chris noted Charlotte Staats with ADK, was unable to attend but interested in acting as an alternate hiking delegate.
- Jennifer Senf, Snowmobile nominee, introduced herself and provided information.

Announcements:

- Chris Morris noted vacancies in multiple user groups and encouraged delegates to solicit for interested folks.

Selection of 2023 Meeting Dates

- Group approved proposed meeting dates of: **April 15 and October 14, 2023.**
- Meetings will be planned for virtual and in person attendance. Chris will confirm with the group via survey.

Group discussion on Priorities and Actions:

- Harvey and Chris provided some background for the discussion. This centered around identifying priorities and actions for the Council to take that align with its purpose and objectives as outlined in the bylaws.

- Harvey mentioned potential action items such as trail conflicts, parking concerns and trail overuse, and more.
- The group discussed action around the upcoming Environmental Bond Act.
- Bill L. asked about how information on funding sources are disseminated to the group. The group discussed sources as well as details of the Consolidated Funding Application.
- Mike V. suggested the group look to other State Councils to see how they operate.
- Harvey B. suggested the delegates collect a list of user groups across the state as well as their contact information, webpages, and social media accounts so the group can send out communication.
- The group discussed opportunities for social media counts. Doug Eli offered his services for the group to start a webpage if they desire.
- Ivan V. noted the role that local Municipal Planning Organizations play in transportation priorities and funding.
- It was determined that due to the limited time before the election, no direct action will be taken.

Delegate Report Highlights and Q&A:

Delegates submitted written reports electronically prior to the meeting. (attached)

- Chris Morris noted that the Empire State Trail Program will be launched at OPRHP beginning in May, 2022 taking oversight of the trail from Hudson River Valley Greenway. Others noted the accomplishments of the trail and new greenway trail opportunities.

Next meeting: April 15, 2023 **In-person @ DEC's Five Rivers location and virtual via WebEx.**

Adjournment: Dominic J. made a motion to adjourn, Mike V. seconded. Meeting adjourned at approx.. 12:02pm.