

**Missouri Ozark Trail Council
Semi-Annual Meeting
Meramec State Park
Saturday, July 28, 2018**

Meeting opened at 10:00 by Kathie Brennan, President, Ozark Trail Association

Individuals Attending

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Abi Jackson	Ozark Trail Association	Doug Mehlville	Backcountry Horseman of Missouri
Becky Hays	US Army Corp of Engineers	Kathie Brennan	Ozark Trail Association
Dave Tobey	National Parks Service	Maury Mertz	Backcountry Horseman of Missouri
Mark Goforth	Ozark Trail Association	Stacy Bandelier	MO State Parks
Kelley Brent	MO State Parks	Becky Denning	Sierra Club
Lee Hughes	MO Dept of Conservation	Stanley Carte	US Forest Service
Kai Walker	Ozark Trail Association	Hannah Smith	Ozark Trail Association

Agency Reports

- Ozark Trail Council Report (Kathie Brennan)
 - Current River Spur Trail has been completed. Tagged orange.
 - Steve Meyer from Pacific Riverwalk has been elected as Mayor of Pacific. Pacific has had a Maggi bond issue passed to improve the Meramec Riverfront. This will be complete in partnership with Great Rivers Greenway.
- Missouri Department of Natural Resources Report (Becky Haze)
 - The Ozark Trail brochure has been completed and printed. Copies distributed by Stacy. 7 boxes of brochures are available for Ozark Trail Association. Contact Stacy if additional copies are desired. Additional printing fees will be charged to the requesting agency based on volume of prints. Approximate pricing is \$3000-\$4000 for 8000-10,000 brochures. Department of Natural Resources has efforts underway to reduce printing. Electronic pdf is available upon request and can be posted publicly.
- Sierra Club (Becky Denning)
 - Sierra Club is looking for a section of trail to build. They will be at Current River State Park 06-14 October 2018. They would like someone from the Ozark Trail Association to give an evening program. Anticipating 60-65 people over 10 days.
- National Park Service (Dave Tobey)
 - In the process of analyzing public comments for new trail plan – the preferred alternative plan will be available early in 2019.
 - There are several Ozark Trail hikes listed in the Ozark National Scenic Riverways fall brochure. Contact Dave Tobey if there is interest in leading a hike.
 - Proposed: Current River canoe race or canoe/hike Current River State Park and Echo Bluff State Park.
 - Need to complete trail between Carr Store, Current River State Park, and Echo Bluff State Park. Approvals completed.
- Missouri Department of Conservation (Lee Hughes)
 - A new Director has been appointed. There is a focus on how to get people outside.
 - Could GIS data be utilized to determine a re-route of the Ozark Trail near Royal Gorge? This may be easier than renegotiating the lapsed easement with the private land owner, held by Missouri Department of Conservation. Lee will partner with Roger Allison on this.
- Corp of Engineers – Wappapello (Kelly Brent)

- Summer storm damaged areas need to be cleared. Campgrounds are 1st priority. IDIQ contract with annual maintenance is a possibility for trail clearance.
- Dave Rice from Illinois is interested in volunteering in Wappapello area.
- The United States Forest Service is working w/ Job core and will help.
- United States Forest Service (Stan Carte)
 - Request to coordinate Ozark Trail adopters, trail building/maintenance activities with other agencies activities to avoid duplication of work.
 - Sawyer certification training program as part of Joint Trails College (Statewide) – Suggestion October 2019
 - Interested Agencies: Ozark Trail Association, Backcountry Horsemen, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, United States Forest Service, Missouri Conservation Department, Sierra Club (potential small amount of funding from Sierra Club)
 - Historically included: Sawyer Certification, what to look for when walking trails, 3 days of classes/activities, Backcountry Horsemen cooked, Instructors volunteered. Similar to Missouri Trails Summit
- Backcountry Horsemen (Maury Mertz)
 - Would like to be included on improvement of trail maintenance communications.
 - PD32 Trailhead has been renamed Blaire Creek Trailhead.
- Ozark Trail Association Report (Kathie Brennan)
 - Request from agencies:
 - i. What if any agency specific volunteer forms may need to be filled out by Ozark Trail Association Volunteers?
 - ii. Do Job Hazard Analysis need to happen?
 - iii. Will volunteers need to fill out forms once or each time they volunteer? Is and e-signature acceptable?
 - State wide trail GIS data is being compiled by Josh at Department of Natural Resources through MPRA grant.
 - A request for a LAD grant has been submitted for tablets to be used for volunteer sign-ins.
 - National Park Service and Missouri Department of Natural Resources overlap on Current River section of Ozark Trail.
 - i. Kathie to put together a proposal for kiosks, junction signs, etc. that are needed.
 - There will be a NCCC crew in Fall 2018 and Spring 2019.
 - Need: GIS through trail Highmont to 19
 - Hike Race Johnson Shut-In to Taum Sauk had 150 racers, net proceeds \$4500. Very well received. A couple of injuries.
 - Challenge Hike had 18 hikers net ~\$16,000.
 - OT100 Mountain Bike Race – Managed by Jim Davis coming fall 2018
 - Eagle Scout projects classified as construction are increasing.
 - i. Bat houses built, need to be placed.
 - ii. Add roof to marquis
 - iii. Project for recycling available.
 - Proposal for trail Taum Sauk to Crane Lake (United States Forest Service.

Agenda Items

1. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
 - The MOU still is waiting for approval
 - It was decided the agencies will stick to the backbone and the Ozark Trail Association responsible for spurs

Open Discussion

- After discussion the next OTC meeting will be at Echo Bluff State Park on February 16th, 2019 @ 10 AM

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM.

Kathie Brennan

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President, Ozark Trail Association

Jeffery J. Goetter

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Secretary, Ozark Trail Association