

TIDEWATER APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monthly Meeting
September 2, 2020
(via Zoom due to Covid-19)

Members Present:

Bob Adkisson, Douglas Cary, Rosanne Cary, Steve Clayton, Patrick Hayes, Ned Kuhns, Lee Lohman, Kama Mitchell, Phyllis Neumann, Jim Newman, Tony Phelps, Kari Pincus, Dave Plum, Rosemary Plum, Sharon Salyer, Jim Sexton

Members Absent:

Mark Ferguson, Greg Hodges, Bill Lynn, Ellis Malabad, Suzanne Moss, Juliet Stephenson, Nathan Terault, Mark Van Zandt

1. **Welcome and Call to Order:** The President determined the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Proceedings of Previous Meeting:** Upon a motion by Lee Lohman and a second by Jim Newman, the Board approved the minutes of the July Board meeting.
3. **Finance Report:** Douglas Cary presented the August Treasurer's report.
4. **President's Report**
Rosanne Cary covered the following points:
 - One item discussed at the biweekly conference call with partner agencies and other clubs was two pipelines. For now, at least, the Atlantic Coast pipeline has been cancelled. The Mountain Valley pipeline is under review by the BLM. The ATC is not involved in these reviews. The ATC did receive \$19M to help mitigate the effects of any pipeline on the trail and nearby communities.
 - For 2021, we have a high number of vacancies on the Board, including President, VP, Treasurer, Trail Supervisor, Tool Boss and others. We need to identify a Nominating Committee chairman and members to be in operation by October to present a slate of officers by the December member meeting. Rosanne Cary will provide Jim Sexton an article to explain this need to members in an email blast.

5. Chair's Reports:

- ATC Rep – Ned Kuhns reported it is not clear if we have members signed up yet for the November virtual Volunteer Leadership Academy;

Ned and Jim Newman will attend the VA Regional Partnership meeting on Oct. 24th;

The Pacific Crest Trail has announced no hiking permits will be issued for 2021, largely due to the Covid-19 virus and the fire situation;

The ATC Annual Meeting will be Sept. 5th with a theme of “Equity and Diversity Education.” A strategic plan for this topic has been developed and will be distributed to clubs by the end of the year;

The new Acting Director for the NPS is Mary Everson;

The two-year old “Wayfinding Project” is nearly finished and results will be announced by year-end. Jim Newman and Bill Rogers worked on this project which dealt with signage and other matters related to navigating the AT at trailheads, parking lots, etc.

- Trail Supervisor – Jim Neumann has organized a work group of 11 members for trail maintenance on Sept. 5-7. This is a re-scheduled trip for the rained-out Aug. 14-16 trip. All Covid-19 requirements will be met. A big thanks for considerable trail improvements already completed in recent days by Paul Dickens, Jim Sexton and Pete Birch.

The Board approved a Fall Maintenance weekend for Oct. 16-18, but with a much-reduced capacity than usual (likely <25-30) due to Covid-19 restrictions on group size. There would be no group meal provided by the Club. Details will be finalized after the Sept 5-7 maintenance weekend and announced to members as soon as possible. All participants will need to complete the required Covid-related training and sign-ups will be first come-first served. If the trail work needed and member interest is sufficient, consideration will be given to a second Fall Maintenance weekend 2 weeks later.

- Membership - Kama Mitchell and Sharon Salyer reported sending 4 new member packets. After purging 61 delinquent members, current membership stands at 428; Sharon will discuss with Rosemary Plum the possibility of a membership drive by putting tables at locations like LL Bean, REI, Blue Ridge outfitters, park welcome centers, etc.
- Webmaster, Historical – In preparation for the club’s 50th anniversary, Jim Sexton has scanned over 500 slides. In addition to an AV show for members, Jim has formed a committee of old timers to assist with producing a historical book (~300 pages, 200 photos) and other activities related to celebrating the anniversary. This committee currently has Reese Lukei, Mal Higgins, Bob Adkisson and Bill Rogers.

6. **Adjournment** - The President adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.