



Friends of the Chester Creek Branch

www.chestercreektrail.org

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Friends of the Chester Creek Trail will be holding an Annual Meeting for Members:

Monday, August 26, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Aston Community Center

3270 Concord Road, Aston, PA 19014

(Meeting room next to the library)

Non-members are welcome to attend, and can become a voting member by joining at the meeting!

The meeting will include:

Election of Board Members

Financial Report

Update on Chester Creek Trail & accomplishments for 2018-2019

Trail merchandise for sale

Time for Q&A

Guest Speakers:

Mark Kirchgasser, Middletown Township Council Chair - Middletown Trail System

Veronica Batter, Rockdale Arts Center Director - Mural Painting on SEPTA retaining wall

Sean Coleman – New Website Design

Veronica Batter - Mural Painting on SEPTA retaining wall

Want to learn more about volunteer/board opportunities? Send an email to

info@chestercreektrail.org

**Friends of the Chester Creek Branch
2018/2019 Annual Report
Annual Meeting Monday, August 26, 2019**

A publication for the members of the Friends of the Chester Creek Branch Rail Trail Project.

Visit our website at www.chestercreektrail.org

Visit our Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/chestercreektrail

The mission of Friends is to advocate for a regional trail network as well as to convert the existing Chester Creek Branch rail line between the Caleb Pusey Plantation in Upland and the intersection with the SEPTA R3 line in Wawa to a multi-use trail.

FOCCB Updates for 2018/2019:

- Families purchased four new benches for Phase I (Middletown Township) of the Chester Creek Trail. These were placed at the landscaped area off of Mount Alverno Road. Eagle Scout, Jon Smith, from Troop 225 in Aston installed the benches along the trail as part of his Eagle Scout project.
- Plaques for County Council and major contributors of the trail have been placed on the large rocks at the landscaped area at the Mount Alverno trailhead. A plaque was also placed toward the 452 bridge honoring the legacy of Michael G. Fusco, founder and President.
- The County is working aggressively on more parking for the trail. We are hoping that they will find more parking in the very near future.
- FOCCB is working with Middletown Township on having three information kiosks built. These will be placed at three different trailheads on Phase I.
- A “bicycle repair station” was installed near the Knowlton Road parking area. In addition, four pet waste bag storage stations were also installed along the trail. This was an Eagle Scout project completed by Eagle Scout, Nathan Dole. Kathy de Jong, Veterinarian/Owner of “Gentle Doctor In-home Vet Care” sponsored the four Pet stations.

- An additional pet station was just placed at the Lenni Road trailhead. This is just a temporary location. It will be moved once Phase III of the trail has been constructed. This was sponsored by Steph Savy from “Steph’s Pet Sitting”.
- Installed a “Little Library” at the trailhead of Mount Alverno Road for all to enjoy.
- Our Friends held a successful volunteer day, where we pruned back weeds, raked leaves, painted over graffiti, and performed other important sprucing up activities.
- In April, 2019, the Scouts from the Order of the Arrow and the Minquas District placed mulch, seeding, and additional topsoil around the landscaped areas. They also cleaned up three truckloads of leaves from the tunnel off of Knowlton Road. In addition, they cut up dead trees along the trail.
- The county repaired the washout area near the 452 Bridge.
- Phase II (Aston Township): Wilson and Associates was awarded the engineering contract by the County. The survey started June 26, 2019.
- Marc Manfree and his staff, along with John Paulson, walked the undeveloped Phase II section of the Chester Creek Trail on June 20. This was to prepare Delco Parks for future maintenance responsibilities.
- We are currently working with Middletown Township to connect the Middletown Trail systems with the Chester Creek Trail.
- FOCCB is looking into developing mural artwork on the large Septa retaining wall that has been susceptible to graffiti in the past. We have discussed this with three local artists from the “Arts District” in Rockdale. We are working with Septa and County to get approval for this project.
- FOCCB will need to look into the development and printing of trail maps after the final phases of the trail are completed.

FOCCB plays an active role in organizing volunteer cleanup and maintenance activities. We are delighted for the strong community support the trail has received. We also plan to be active advocates for trail expansion and connection to other trail networks.

Please be sure to visit our web site www.chestercreektrail.org or our Facebook page (Chester Creek Trail).

FOCCB will hold its annual meeting and elect Board Members on Monday, August 26th at 7:00 p.m. at the Aston Township Community Center (257 Concord Rd, Aston, PA 19014). We will

review project progress, elect the Board for the coming year, and conduct normal Board business. We hope the annual meeting is an enlightening affair for our members and we would love for you to attend and learn what has been accomplished over the past year.

If you are unable to attend, please complete and mail the proxy vote included with this Annual Report for receipt by August 19th, 2019. If your membership has expired, please feel free to renew at our Annual Meeting, by mail, or on line at our website at <http://www.chestercreektrail.org>.

We look forward to the next phase of trail construction, and thank you for your support. We hope to see you on the trail soon!

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Pinkowicz, President
Ira Josephs, Vice President
John Paulson, Treasurer
Kelly Johnson, Director of Communications
Janilyn Pinkowicz, Membership Director/Secretary
Bill Shaw, Trail Maintenance Director