

Minutes of a Meeting of the

State Trails Advisory Committee

Thursday, November 14, 2024

1:30pm to 3:00pm (virtual)

Welcome and Attendance Ι.

The participants were welcomed by Kelly McClary, Director of Planning Recreation Resources who introduced Matthew Wells, Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Director Wells also welcomed the members of STAC and spoke about the importance of the work being done on statewide trails. Two new members to the STAC were also introduced and welcomed.

Π. **VDOT State Trails Office Update**

Two VDOT staff members gave a talk and presentation on the current status of the State Trails Office. They also spoke about the ongoing work on the Resource Hub and the Trail Design Guide. Finally an update on the status of the Statewide Trails Plan and a schedule for completion of Phase II.

III. **Reports from STAC members**

Northern Virginia Regional Commission Wayfinding and Amenities Project

A representative of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail (PHNST) updated the group on the Wayfinding and Amenities Project. The project study involved extensive data collection to arrive at recommendations for resources on the PHNST.

b. Virginia Creeper Trail Update – VCT Conservancy

The Virginia Creeper Trail (VCT) was highly impacted by the flooding caused by hurricane Helene. Conservancy staff provided pictures and descriptions of the extensive damage. The presentation also included information about costs and timelines for reconstruction.

IV. **Revisions to SOP**

Draft SOP was sent out to members prior to the meeting. Several revisions were made to the SOP document including desired membership makeup, voting procedures, subcommittees and meeting descriptions.

The revised SOP was approved by vote of the members present.

V. STAC Report Update

The report to the General Assembly for the 2023-2024 FY was summarized and presented to the membership. The GA had received the report in October of 2024.

VI. Spring Meeting Planning

The Spring 2025 meeting will be held in conjunction with the VaULT conference in Blacksburg in April of 2025. Further details will be available as that date draws closer.

Minutes submitted by Salim Chishti, Environmental Program Planner, Division of Planning and Recreation Resources.