

## ROC Meeting Minutes: October 2018

**In Attendance:** Jerry Stensland, Willie Lowe, Dana Bradley, Robin Schultze, Penny Flynn, Bruce McKinney, Bill Elderbrock, Lisa Rome, Bruce Rome, Burwell Byers, Bruce Byers, Ray Gaj, Steve Gilbert, Steve Collins, Kay Dittmer, Ed Dittmer, Joshua Dill, Kurt Howell, Ron Huntsberger

- The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm.
- **Remembering John Maddy:**
  - The meeting began by discussing the recent passing of a dedicated volunteer, John Maddy. John was a geologist and shared many stories about his expeditions around the world during events. He played a big role in the creation of the ICC trail system in 2013 and helped with many ROC workdays over the years. He was a great man and will be missed by all that knew him.
- Jerry spoke with us about the possibility of a potential outdoor magazine. The details are still being ironed out and we will have more information soon.
- ROC has received \$9,260 from the Eaton Grant and \$35,000 from RHI Legacy Foundation; ROC is now funded for two years at its current operating expenses.
- **ROC Past Event Recap:**
  - 9/22: ROC Broad River Fall Sweep
  - 9/29: ROC Walk with Brother Wolf
  - 9/30: ROC Members-Only Walnut Creek Preserve Hike
  - 10/6: Tour de Pumpkin and the Hilltop Festival
  - 10/13: ROC River Float and Campout
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - ROC Rumbling Bald Hike: **October 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 am (Meet at 9 am at the annex to carpool)**
  - ROC Walk With Brother Wolf: **October 27<sup>th</sup> at 10 am**
  - ROC Members-Only Walnut Creek Preserve Hike: **November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11 am**
- **Outdoor Programs Director – Projects Update:**
  - Since ROC has received the Eaton grant, ROC will work on establishing a new after-school program: The ROC Outdoor Adventure Club.
  - GEMS (Girls Excelling in Math and Science): Dana has given two talks at Glenwood Elementary in Marion and Forrest Hunt Elementary. Spindale Elementary is tomorrow. She talks about ROC, trails, trail safety, and the math and science behind her position as the Outdoor Programs Director.
  - Flyers were handed out for the ROC Walking Club.

- The Couch to 5K will likely take place in late winter/early spring and will line up with a race in the ROC Race Series, though the exact starting date has yet to be determined.
  - The Continuing Education Hiking 101 Course: The course will most likely be offered on April 1<sup>st</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.
  - Lowe's and Walmart grants.
    - ROC is still waiting to hear back from Lowe's, however, Dana was told that we should receive everything that we asked for (which includes 18' Paulan Chainsaw with case, extra chain and bar, bar and chain oil, pre-mixed gas, and two hand saws).
    - We should hear back from Walmart about the items we requested from them soon, as well.
- **Trail Projects:**
    - Rail Trail: While the paving expansion was supposed to take place on October 8<sup>th</sup>, there were issues with the drainage. Those issues have been alleviated and they will pursue paving again once the construction company is available. There will be 32 stop signs installed before the trail is officially finished.
    - Broad River: There are many trees down on Section 5 after the immense amount of rains the area has been experiencing. Please use caution.
    - Buffalo Creek Park/Weedpatch Mountain: Robin W, Robin S, and Dana scouted the BCP Trail (and collected trail counting data) on 10/2; the trail was in good shape despite a few small erosion issues. There are reports of downed trees on the Weedpatch Trail that should be removed soon.
    - Purple Martin Trail: There is now funding in place to expand the Purple Martin Greenway to Kiwanis park by 2019.
    - Eagle Rock Parking: Eagle Rock Parking is finally open. Reserved parking can be accessed on the Chimney Rock State Park website. New signage was also installed over the weekend to show the Weedpatch Trail.
    - Dittmer-Watts: The trail is open and it is in good shape.
    - ICC Trails: There has been a slight re-routing of the Blue Trail in order to accommodate the College's installation of a new greenhouse. Changes to the Orange Trail might also occur in order to better facilitate user ease and experience while on the trail.
  - **Race Series:**
    - The Purple Martin saw 115 participants register and 107 finishers.
    - There are three races left in the ROC Race series, and there have already been a record number of participants (1,117 so far).
    - The next race will be the Master's Academy 5K on Saturday night, October 20<sup>th</sup>.
    - The South of the Mountain Trail Run will be on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
    - The Elves and Bells 5K will be on November 24<sup>th</sup>.
    - Joshua Dill came to the meeting and spoke about adding "rucking" to the race series. Rucking can be likened to putting weights in one's backpack while walking or running a course.

- He stressed that the rucking club emphasizes community service and that ROC should feel free to contact him if we ever need volunteers
- He can be reached at [Joshua.seth.dill@gmail.com](mailto:Joshua.seth.dill@gmail.com)