

Arkansas Trails Council
Winter Quarterly Meeting
10:00 a.m., Saturday, January 20, 2018
Transportation Depot
Hot Springs, Arkansas
Minutes
by Mike Sprague

Meeting Commenced

Brief introductions were made

The previous meeting minutes were approved. Jim Gifford moved to approve them. Tom Ledbetter seconded it.

Hot Springs Parks and Trails Director Jean Wallace gave a presentation about the trail projects around Hot springs.

Her department has worked out a trail plan with the area's metropolitan planning organization (MPO). Three main greenways are planned along Gulpha, Hot Springs and Stokes creeks. The current segment of the Hot Springs Creek Greenway that's being constructed will have a tall boardwalk that uses micro-pile installation. Users will have a view from up in the trees.

Wallace also spoke about the mountain bike trails being built in the North Woods just north of Hot Springs National Park. About 45 miles are planned to be built. The first phase of 16 miles is being built right now.

Next we spoke about the Arkansas Trails System designations. A couple of motions were made based on the recommendations of the Arkansas Trails System Committee from a meeting held in November. First, Ledbetter made a motion to take off the White Rock Mountain and Buffalo Gap loops from the Arkansas Trails System list. Both of them are listed as mountain bike trails, however neither of them are on actual trails but rather on dirt roads. Frank Wimberley seconded it, and the motion passed. The second motion was to move the Butterfield Trail from the Long Distance category to the Hiking Trail category. Gifford made the motion. Wimberley seconded it. The motion passed.

Gifford volunteered to come up with a draft regarding the application procedure for the Arkansas Trails System.

It was agreed that we should have a fillable application to be available online.

It was also agreed that announcements from the Arkansas Trails Council should be made as a press release or some other notification on the State Parks or Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism websites. I, Mike Sprague, agreed to look into that.

Robert Kacir showed the latest rendition of the new Arkansas Trails Council Website. Gifford suggested that Website Stuff should be a standing item on the council's agendas. Discussion was

made about which groups should be listed on the website as the participating groups of the Arkansas Trails Council.

Gifford stated that we should get the Website live as soon as possible.

Meeting was adjourned.

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Sign-in List

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation or Activity of Interest</u>	<u>Email</u>
Mike Sprague	Arkansas Dept. of Parks and Tourism	michael.sprague@arkansas.gov
Toby Von Rembow	Rogue Trails – Mtn Biking/Hiking	tobyvonrembow@gmail.com
Jean Wallace	City of Hot Springs	jwallace@cityhs.net
Tom Ledbetter	USFS-Ouachita National Forest	t.ledbetter@fs.fed.us
Ken Freeman	City of Hot Springs	kfreement@cityhs.net
Frank Wimberley	Greers Ferry Lake Trails Council	fwimberley@screekoutfitters.com
Jim Gifford	Ouachita Mountain Hikers/Friends of the Ouachita Trail	hikearkansas@gmail.com
Robert Kacir	Arkansas Dept. of Parks and Tourism	robert.kacir@arkansas.gov