

**Chessie Trail Advisory Committee  
Minutes**

**July 7, 2016**

**4:30 – 5:30 pm**

**Hinty Hall Conference Room**

1. Attendance

a. Present:

- i. Col Jay Williams, VMI Post Engineer
- ii. Keith Holland, Adjacent Landowner
- iii. Lisa Tracy, VMI Appointed

b. Absent:

- i. Jean Clark, Director of Tourism, Lexington and Rockbridge Area  
Tourism
- ii. CPT Aaron Groah, Staff Engineer, VMI Physical Plant
- iii. Sam Crickenberger, Rockbridge County
- iv. Jay Scudder, City of Buena Vista
- v. Noah Simon, City of Lexington
- vi. Dave Walsh, Friends of the Chessie Trail
- vii. Chris Wise, RACC
- viii. LTC Richard Fletcher, Director of Physical Plant

2. Agenda

a. Approval of the 12 May 16 Minutes

- i. Moved, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes as published

b. Chessie Trail Website Changes

- i. Updates are complete; take time to review and inform Col Williams  
of any changes

c. VMI Recreational Trails Grant Update

- i. LTC Fletcher informed the group that VMI had a kick off meeting with Clark- Nexsen on Friday, 6 May
  - ii. A-E presentation to the Chessie Trail Advisory Committee will be scheduled in the future
- d. City of Lexington Grant – No report
- e. City of Buena Vista Project – No report
- f. Old Buena Vista Road Storage Demolition - Complete
- g. Miscellaneous
  - i. Website Inquiries
    - 1. Bike Use (two inquiries)
    - 2. Maps on the website need attention
      - a. ***ACTION: Col Williams worked with VMI Communications and Marketing to re-establish the link (Complete)***
  - ii. Hemlock Update (Lisa)
    - 1. CAPT Groah and Cadet Josh Pike researched
      - a. Toxic in big doses; not as big a problem as originally thought
  - iii. Trail Improvements
    - 1. Gates are working well
    - 2. Gate solution still needed at Trimble/Childress property; concern is cows are laying on the trail; option is gravel
  - iv. Hiking Upward (Jay) – No action to date
    - 1. Keith Holland asked if this was accomplished, what happens if it gets too big?
      - a. Landowners concerns increase as the number of trail users increase
- h. Open Discussion
  - i. VMI Trash receptacles are not holding up (Lisa)

- ii. Re-verify stretch of wildflowers are not being cut (Lisa)
  - iii. Trail Improvements are needed (Lisa)
  - iv. Warm Creek Bridge concern (Lisa)
  - v. Bike Etiquette on Trail (Keith Holland)
    - 1. Discuss with David Walsh (Lisa Tracy)
    - 2. Bring this discussion into the design process
  - vi. Cliff area security and safety – evidence of eroded spots
  - vii. The overlap of people and cows drives the need for fencing in these areas
    - 1. Re-fence every five years
    - 2. Adjacent landowners are not protected
    - 3. Lease 1’ of each side of the trail for liability and fence installation
  - viii. WDBJ7 was on the trail recently – It was determined that with their new location in Lexington, they were doing points of interest in our local area
  - ix. Upcoming events
    - 1. 11 Jul 16 – FOCT Event
    - 2. 15 Oct 16 – FOCT 5K and Marathon
  - i. Next Meeting Date
    - a. September 8, 2016, 4:30 – 5:30 pm, Hinty Hall Conference Room
3. With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.