



MP3 COG Board
March 26, 2025
6:00 PM
Alsace Twp Municipal Bldg

AGENDA

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

<https://readingpa.zoom.us/j/84355427318?pwd=w4SgxTRJ1mo8f3u1vNoS2zdnJiUyRG.1>
Passcode:173679

I. CALL TO ORDER - K. Barnhardt, Chair

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public are invited to comment on any item on the agenda (5 minutes time limit) or any item not on the agenda (3 minutes time limit).

III. APPROVAL of AGENDA & MINUTES – January meeting minutes

IV. TREASURER’S REPORT –

- a. Payment of Bills –
- b. Treasurer’s Rept.
- c. Requesting the approval of \$200 to join PACOG, operated by the PA DCED.
*PACOG holds monthly hybrid meetings and webinars on topics of interest to COGs.
They also supply technical support.*

V. PRESENTATION – Blake Hurst on Vision for Skyline Drive

VI. REPORTS and ACTIONS

- a. Kevin Lerch re Pagoda Foundation
- b. Review Amendment to COG Agreement re membership **Pg 8-15**
- c. Approve Resolution to adopt the Natural Lands Trail Study and Forest Stewardship Plan and encourage City Council to do the same. **Pg 16**
- d. Closing Skyline to vehicular traffic & Guiderail Project update
- e. Installation of camera system across Skyline Dr
- f. Report on Events
- g. Establish 2025 meeting locations for July 23, Sept 25, Dec 3
(Note: Tie to events and other initiatives Frisbee Golf Course at Egleman’s or Mineral Spring Park)

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS – submission in written form only

- Finance & Capital – none
- Promotions & Marketing – none
- Public Safety & Public Services – none
- Environmental & Land Use Committees – none

VIII. WRITTEN REPORTS FROM PRESERVE STAKEHOLDERS – none submitted

IX. ADJOURN – Next May 28th at 6 pm @ Reading City Hall



MP3 COG Board
 Wednesday, January 29, 2025
 6:00 PM
 Reading City Hall

Members: –L. Olsen (County), , L. Kelleher (Reading), K. Barnhardt (County), J. Baez, Jr. (Reading), S. Dierolf (Alsace Twp rep Manager), K. Bradley (Alsace rep elected off) – in person and - A. Sellers (Lower Alsace), D. Pottiger (Lower Alsace) - virtually

Members absent: B. Petrov (Mt. Penn), T. Goodman (Mt. Penn), J. Moore (Alsace Twp)

Others attending –B. Lederer and L. Faulk – in person and L. Kissinger - phone

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Barnhardt called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm and announced that a quorum is present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Barnhardt opened the floor for public comment. As no one present indicated their desire to speak, the public comment period was closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES & AGENDA

Mr. Barnhardt noted the need to consider the minutes from the July/September 2024 meeting and the agenda for this meeting.

There was no objection to the contents of the meeting minutes and they were approved by acclimation.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Mr. Olsen, Acting Treasurer, presented the Treasurer’s Report - the MP3 bank account has a balance of \$45,737.68, noting that there have been no bills to process. He noted the receipt of the Lower Alsace 2025 dues. He also noted the need to ratify the \$250 sponsorship for the New

Year's Eve fireworks event and authorize the submission of the Reading Music Foundation grant application for \$4,500 for the 2025 musical events.

Mr. Olsen moved, seconded by Mr. Baez, to ratify the above listed sponsorship and the submission of the grant application. The motion was approved unanimously.

In response to a question, Mr. Olsen explained that the funding held in a Berks County Community Foundation account was donated by Boots Fehr. Ms. Kelleher added that this funding was set aside for capital needs.

MP3 COG REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS

Natural Lands Stewardship Plan and Trails Feasibility Study

Completed and distributed to the board and the public.

B and C Closure of Skyline – Duryea Dr to List Road, & Security Cameras

Mr. Kissinger stated that the gate installation is almost complete. A problem with one of the remote closures is being addressed. He stated that the installation of the security camera is underway; however, LTW discovered a problem with the poles. Due to the extreme wind conditions on Skyline Drive, the poles need to be upgraded to prevent them from moving during windy periods.

In response to a question, Ms. Kelleher reported that 11 poles are being installed and each pole will have 5 cameras, with one of the cameras having zoom and pan abilities. The cameras are the same as those installed on City streets. The Reading Police and Central Berks Police will have live feeds to the videos.

In response to a question, Mr. Kissinger stated that the gates will be closed remotely at 9 pm. This time complies with the City Code.

§ 396-304. Time of use.

[Amended 7-11-2022 by Ord. No. 63-2022]

A. Parks are open 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. prevailing time from October 1 through April 30 and 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. prevailing time from May 1 through September 30, except with a permit. During hours the park area is closed, law enforcement authorities described herein shall have the ability to clear the area of all parties and property.

B. This shall not apply to City personnel engaged in the performance of their duties or to those having a permit or authorization from the Public Works Director, or his designee, Police Department, Pagoda Foundation or the Reading Recreation Commission to conduct activities during closed hours.

Mr. Kissinger stated that signage has been installed at multiple locations about the closure of the gates and the times. Ms. Kelleher added that the City's intent is to provide an educational period and initially warn those who fail to leave the area prior to the closure of the gates. After the educational period, citations will be issued. She noted that Central Berks has jurisdiction to enforce several of the City's ordinances when they respond to complaints on Skyline Drive.

Ms. Sellers suggested adjusting the gate closure time to 10 pm so people have time to view the city lights from this vantage point.

Mr. Baez noted that the closure time was selected due to the timing of the quality-of-life complaints received from District 2 and 3 neighbors.

Ms. Kelleher explained that the need for the 9 pm closure is supported by the multiple years of complaints coming from Hessian Camp residents, Hillside neighborhood residents, Lower Alsace residents and now College Heights residents. She stated that the closure of the Pagoda parking lot has pushed actors to the List Road Overlook which has relocated the noise, and the complaint calls to Central Berks.

A. Amendment to the COG Agreement

Ms. Kelleher explained that this amendment was driven by Mt. Penn's continued lack of participation and the change in the participation of the existing members and the need to address the Alsace Township manager's decision to step away from the board.

Ms. Kelleher reported that the Mt. Penn Manager called this afternoon and asked the Board to consider providing Mt. Penn with a 30-day delay in approving the amendment to remove the borough as a member. He stated that he has been encouraging the Borough to reengage with the MP3, as it will fit nicely with their desire for economic growth. She added that Mr. Hunter also hopes that the MP3 will continue its previous offer to stay the requirement for the payment of dues until the borough begins to participate.

Mr. Barnhardt explained the origin of the MP3 and how former Mt Penn Councilman Mark Dudash supported the creation of the MP3 and Mt Penn's participation and the overall disinterest after Mr. Dudash left the borough Council. He agreed with allowing Mt. Penn the 30-day window and to continue the offer to stay the annual dues.

All present agreed with Mr. Barnhardt's position.

Ms. Kelleher explained that COGs (Council of Governments) are usually composed of elected officials only. However, when the MP3 COG was being created Mr. Barnhardt identified the need to have a combination of elected officials and municipal officials who can assist with some of the work required to move the MP3 forward; therefore the COG was drafted to require the appointment of an elected official and either the municipal manager or municipal secretary from each government member, which retains the primary need to have the participants close to each municipality's decision makers.

Ms. Kelleher stated that the first amendment to the membership allowed the elected official to select a community member to serve in their place, which has been invoked by Alsace Twp. The new need for an amendment was raised when the Alsace Twp manager decided to step away. Rather than add an additional citizen, it would be best to have the government members select another public official to replace the manager or secretary. She added that the State Ethics Code defines "public official" as a certain municipal employee or a citizen appointed to serve of a

municipal board, authority or commission. This again would retain the public official's ability to communicate with the elected officials and manager.

There were no questions about the amendment.

Mr. Barnhardt stated that a vote on the amendment will be delayed until the March meeting to provide the extension to Mt. Penn.

D. Frisbee Golf Project

Ms. Kelleher stated that there is no update. She reminded the group that this project was selected at the request of the Marketing Committee to use to support sponsorships for MP3 events

E. COG Events

No update.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS – submission in written form only

- Finance & Capital - none
- Promotions & Marketing - attached to the agenda
- Public Safety & Public Services - none
- Environmental & Land Use Committees – attached to the agenda. Ms. Kelleher reported that the new chair of this committee is Ross Harter.

WRITTEN REPORTS FROM PRESERVE STAKEHOLDERS

None received.

NEW BUSINESS - Election of Officers

Mr. Barnhardt stated that the agreement requires officers to be elected annually to the position of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. Nominations were opened.

Ms. Kelleher moved, seconded by Mr. Baez, to nominate Mr. Barnhardt as chair. There were no further nominations and no objections to the nomination. Mr. Barnhardt was elected to Chair unanimously.

Ms. Kelleher moved, seconded by Mr. Barnhardt, to nominate Mr. Baez as Vice Chair. There were no further nominations and no objections to the nomination. Mr. Baez was elected to Vice Chair unanimously.

Mr. Barnhardt moved, seconded by Mr. Pottiger, to nominate Ms. Kelleher as Secretary. There were no further nominations and no objections to the nomination. Ms. Kelleher was elected to Secretary unanimously.

Mr. Pottiger moved, seconded by Mr. Baez, to nominate Mr. Olsen as Treasurer. There were no further nominations and no objections to the nomination. Mr. Olsen was elected to Treasurer unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Meeting locations. Mr. Dierolf stated that he will check with Mr. Moore about the availability of the Alsace Township building tomorrow.

Mr. Baez suggested scheduling locations only through the end of May, so Mt. Penn can be considered as a location if they decide to participate. All agreed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one present indicated their desire to comment and the public comment period was closed.

The next MP3 meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 26th at 6 pm at the Alsace Township Municipal Building.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:35 pm on motion of Mr. Baez and Ms. Sellers respectively.

Respectfully submitted by Linda A. Kelleher, Secretary

Action Items:

1. Ms. Kelleher to follow-up on meeting locations.



MT. PENN PRESERVE PARTNERSHIP

TREASURER'S REPORT – November 29, 2024

<u>Opening Balance</u>	\$	47,987.68	
<u>Checks</u>	\$	\$1000.00	Mike Santerelli
		\$1250.00	Trudy Lynn
<u>Total Disbursements</u>	\$	2250.00	
<u>Deposits</u>	\$	0.00	
<u>Total Deposits</u>	\$	0.00	
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$	45,737.68	

NOTE: There was a \$275 ACH withdrawal on October 11, 2024 which was originated by the IRS. They subsequently refunded the \$275 via check which was deposited into the account on December 4, 2024. I did not post these transactions as the net result was \$0.00.

Drafted by: City Clerk
Sponsored/Referred by: Mt. Penn Preserve Partnership Board
Introduced on:
Advertised on:

BILL NO. ____-2025
AN ORDINANCE

**AMENDING THE MT. PENN PRESERVE PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT (MP3
COG) TO MODIFY THE BOARD MEMBERSHIP AND MAKE SOME ADDITIONAL
CLARIFICATIONS**

The _____ of the _____ hereby ordains as follows:
(governing body) (municipality)

Section One: It is the intention of the Townships of Lower Alsace and Alsace, the Borough of Mount Penn, the City of Reading and the County of Berks to establish a Council of Governments to foster a cooperative effort to explore and implement initiatives identified within the 2017 Mt. Penn Preserve Master Plan, within the *2025 Forest Stewardship and Trails Assessment Plan* and to implement and resolve regional initiatives, to determine policies and to formulate concepts and programs to meet the needs of the Preserve region. The members agree as follows:

1. The name of the Council of Government shall be Mt. Penn Preserve Partnership Council of Government (MP3 COG).
2. The MP3 COG shall consist of members as listed in Exhibit A, representing the partner municipalities.
3. The MP3 COG shall be governed by the same regulations and or laws that are applicable to the member governments and by the Articles of Agreement, attached as Exhibit A, which may be amended from time to time by the membership of the MP3 COG, *and approved by the municipal members.*
4. The MP3 COG shall embrace the following purposes:
 - a. Forum: To serve as a forum to study, discuss and implement initiatives identified in the 2017 Mt. Penn Preserve Master Plan, *in the 2025 Forest Stewardship and Trails Assessment Plan* and other regional needs as they are identified for the area defined in Exhibit B.
 - b. Communication & Coordination: To provide an organizational structure necessary to ensure effective communications among all member organizations and the residents of the Mt. Penn Preserve area. To apply and administer governmental and non-governmental grants to improve the area.

- c. Policies & Priorities: To develop and review policies, plans, and regulations that will encourage the type of appropriate development that will enhance and protect the natural resources of the Preserve.
 - d. Community Facilities & Services: To facilitate cooperative efforts, among existing law enforcement agencies, provide shared community facilities and services as well as the organizing and planning of regional events.
 - e. Regional Spokesman: To serve as a liaison with members of the community, governmental units and groups or organizations; and to serve as a regional spokesperson for the area.
 - f. Regional Review: To review and coordinate federal, state and local programs of regional importance.
5. The municipal members of the MP3 shall retain ownership, control and responsibility for the property and facilities they own within the Mt. Penn Preserve area, unless the member municipality negotiates with the MP3 to take over the management and control of the property or facility.
 6. The MP3 shall have a term of ten (10) years. However, the member governments have the authority to withdraw from the MP3 annually, after providing 12 months' notice of their desire to withdraw, as per Article IV.C. of the attached agreement.

Section Two: This Ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after its enactment.

ENACTED _____, 2025

Chair of Governing Body

ATTEST:

Municipal Secretary/County Clerk

Submitted to Mayor by: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Received in Mayor's Office by: _____

Date Received: _____

Approved by Mayor: _____

Date Approved: _____

Vetoed by Mayor: _____

Date Vetoed: _____

EXHIBIT A

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN AND AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE TOWNSHIPS OF LOWER ALSACE AND ALSACE, THE BOROUGH OF MOUNT PENN, THE CITY OF READING, AND THE COUNTY OF BERKS

PREAMBLE

We, the elected representatives of the local governments with an interest in the Mt. Penn Preserve, recognize that many of the problems and needs confronting this area are independent of political boundaries; that any solutions to our problems and the programs that we formulate to meet our common needs will have a greater chance of success if they are undertaken jointly and in a cooperative manner.

Therefore, the representatives of the Townships of Lower Alsace and Alsace, the Borough of Mount Penn, the City of Reading (each, a “Municipality” and together, the “Municipalities”), and the County of Berks (the “County”, and, together with the Municipalities, the “Government Members”) hereby join together to form the Mt. Penn Preserve Partnership Council of Governments (MP3 COG).

The overriding goal of the MP3 COG is to improve the quality of life for the residents of the area and for those who visit this area by exploring and implementing the initiatives identified in the 2017 Mt. Penn Preserve Master Plan, *in the 2025 Forest Stewardship and Trails Assessment Plan*, coordinating law enforcement activities, standardize permitting regulations and other issues identified by the participating Government Members. We believe that this goal can best be achieved through cooperative efforts by the Government Members. This involves combining our various resources to meet regional challenges which may be beyond our individual capabilities.

The key to the success of the MP3 COG is for all Government Members’ officials to exhibit a strong commitment to seek the solution of common problems within the context of the COG. We recognize that cooperation which is truly regional will sometimes entail some trade-offs, and we believe the results will provide better regional qualities than could be achieved by each individual Government Member in the area.

This agreement is to establish a council of governments in the Mt. Penn Preserve region as defined by the 2017 Master Plan and shown in Exhibit B. It does not create a new layer of government, or a super-government. It does provide a means of communication, cooperation and joint action in the interest of the municipalities individually and collectively.

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the “Mt. Penn Preserve Partnership Council of Governments” and henceforth may be referred to as the “MP3 COG.”

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The MP3 COG will meet at regular intervals to explore and implement initiatives within the Mt. Penn Master Plan, *the 2025 Forest Stewardship and Trails Assessment Plan* and foster a cooperative effort to resolve regional problems, coordinate law enforcement activities, regulate permitting, provide coordinated promotion, to determine policies, and to formulate plans and programs to meet regional needs. The MP3 COG will embrace a number of purposes. These are:

- A. **Forum:** To serve as a mutual forum to identify, discuss, study, and bring into focus regional issues and needs for those who reside in or visit the Mt. Penn Preserve area.
- B. **Communication & Coordination:** To provide the organizational structure necessary to ensure the exploration and implementation of initiatives in the Mt. Penn Preserve Master Plan, *the 2025 Forest Stewardship and Trails Assessment Plan* and produce effective communications and coordination among the municipal partners.
- C. **Policies & Priorities:** To foster, develop, and review policies, plans, and priorities for regional growth and development and to conserve natural and cultural resources.
- D. **Community Facilities & Services:** To facilitate cooperative efforts to provide organized community facilities, events and services.
- E. **Regional Spokesperson:** To maintain a liaison with members, governmental units and groups or organizations and to serve as regional spokesperson for local governments to governmental units and organizations at the county, state, and federal levels.
- F. **Staff Support:** To furnish general and technical staff support to Government Members as they direct or request, to promote and implement approved agreements, policies, projects and programs.
- G. **Regional Review:** To review and coordinate federal, state, and local programs of regional importance and to apply for governmental and non-governmental grants to implement initiatives and programs.

ARTICLE III – POWERS & SCOPE OF AUTHORITY

As specified in the Act of December 19, 1996, Title 53, Pa. C.S.A. Section 2301 et. seq., municipalities may cooperate in the exercise or performance of their respective governmental functions, powers or responsibilities. It is the intention of the Government Members subscribing to these Articles of Agreement that the MP3 COG may establish any program and perform any function permitted in this agreement and future amended agreements subsequently agreed to by the participating Government Members, while recognizing the need for the MP3 COG to adhere to all Commonwealth laws and regulations that apply to governmental agencies. In order to carry out these activities, it is hereby agreed that unless otherwise specified below, the MP3 COG may:

- A. adopt ordinances and regulations that will be consistent across the preserve area to coordinate law enforcement, public safety, public services, permitting of events, marketing, etc.
- B. employ staff permanent, temporary, part-time or full-time positions as necessary, according to adopted policies and establish employee benefit programs as needed;
- C. apply for, receive, administer and dispense funds from municipal, state, federal agencies, or other sources;
- D. acquire, manage, license, lease or dispose of real property, as specified in these Articles of Agreement and in accordance with executed contracts;

- E. acquire, manage, license, or dispose of personal property owned by the MP3 COG as specified in these Articles of Agreement and in accordance with executed contracts;
- F. establish an organizational structure as deemed necessary;
- G. contract for services;
- H. initiate, advise, aid in the establishment of or amend cooperative agreements among local governments in the region;
- I. propose, initiate, implement or revise studies, policy discussions and plans for the MP3 COG;
- J. make recommendations to any local governments or other appropriate agencies or entities; and,
- K. take other actions consistent with enabling legislation and the terms of these Articles of Agreement.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

Non-voting membership shall be open to any organization designated by the voting membership.

- A. **Eligibility & Membership:** Voting membership on the MP3 COG Board shall be provided to one (1) elected official appointed by the governing body of each Government member or, at that governing body’s option, their appointed representative, 1 municipal secretary or administrator appointed by each Government member ***or a public official appointed by the governing body***, one (1) elected County Commissioner or, at the County Commissioners’ option, the Chief Operations Officer of the County, and one (1) representative of the Berks County Planning Commission, (each, a “member” and collectively, the “members” or the “membership”).

If the elected officials and/or municipal secretary or administrator decide not to participate on the MP3 COG Board and appoint community members, at least one must be a public official appointed to one of the municipal boards. In addition, if an elected official and/or municipal secretary or administration are not appointed to the MP3 COG Board, meeting agendas, meeting minutes and other materials about the MP3 COG shall be sent to the municipal secretary or manager, to be shared with all municipal elected officials which will allow the elected officials to be informed about the MP3 COG’s activities.

*A quorum shall be a simple majority – half of those present. **Amendment to allow the replacement of an elected official with an appointed rep and the County Chief Operations Officer was approved Oct 24.2023.*

- B. **Admission:** Each Government Member must subscribe by ordinance to these Articles of Agreement and agree to be bound to the extent provided in these Articles and other agreements adopted by the MP3 COG.
- C. **Withdrawal:** A member shall have the right to withdraw from the MP3 COG at the end of any calendar year by giving twelve (12) months prior written notice to the COG Chair. In the

case of Government Members, this notice shall be in the form of an ordinance approved by the governing body of the Government Member. A Government Member's withdrawal will in no way eliminate or lessen the financial obligation the municipality agreed to as a member of the MP3 COG.

D. Procedures and Responsibilities:

1. Meetings - The MP3 COG Board shall meet at least four (4) times a year. Meetings shall be held in accordance with the PA Sunshine Act 65 Pa. Cons. Stat. Section 261 et. seq. Additional meetings may take place upon call of the Chair or by the request of two of more of the member municipalities. Members will be provided with forty-eight (48) hours' notice about the meeting and the topic of the meeting. During the month of January, the MP3 COG Executive Committee shall conduct an organizational meeting to select Officers and designate regular meeting dates.

2. Responsibilities - As the general policy body, the MP3 COG Board is responsible both for considering and for carrying out the programs and functions agreed to by the participating municipalities. In accordance with all provisions of these Articles, the MP3 COG shall:
 - a. annually elect officers as required;
 - b. adopt a budget;
 - c. resolve membership and participation questions;
 - d. act on amendments to the Articles of Agreement, as approved by the Government Members;
 - e. act on all proposals to initiate, continue, modify, or discontinue any programs or functions of the MP3 COG;
 - f. if needed, consider and approve the hiring of staff and all related Human Resource policies determined to be necessary for the administration of the programs and policies of the MP3 COG
 - g. appoint a solicitor who is unaffiliated with the governments who are a party to this agreement;
 - h. apply for grants from any governmental or non-governmental agency, and
 - j. provide annual written reports on the activities of the MP3 COG to all members, through the municipal secretary and County Clerk.

E. Committees: The MP3 COG Board may establish such standing, special or ad hoc committees as deemed appropriate to conduct its business. Standing committees may include, but not be limited to: Finance & Capital, Promotions & Marketing, Public Safety & Public Services and Environmental & Land Use Committees.

ARTICLE V – FINANCING

Beginning in 2019, Government Members in the MP3 COG shall participate in funding the basic cost of the MP3 COG operations. To recognize their joint commitment to the MP3 COG, all five (5) Government Members shall equally share in funding the MP3 COG operations budget by remitting \$2,000 annually.

A prioritized five (5) year capital plan will be drafted and presented to the Government Members for their consideration and approval. These costs shall be established by the MP3 COG Executive Committee in the annual budget, adopted by June 30th of each year and submitted to the Government Members by July 30th of each year for their consideration. Capital contributions, apart from the annual operations contribution, will be allocated on a per-project basis based on the nature and extent of each project and impact on the facility owned by the Government Member. Successful fundraising by the MP3 may reduce the amount of the Government Members capital contributions.

The Government Members shall remit their contributions no later January 31st of the following fiscal year. MP3 COG Government Members shall pay their share of MP3 COG operations and capital contributions within 35 days of the date of billing, no later than January 31st annually. Payments must be received or postmarked by the due date or a penalty of 10% will be assessed

ARTICLE VI – TERM

The MP3 COG shall exist for a ten (10) year term. The term of the MP3 COG is renewable by the Government Members ~~for a term~~ as approved by the governing body of the Government Members. Members may withdraw from the MP3 COG as per Article IV.C. herein.

EXECUTED ON _____, 2025

County Commissioner Chair

ATTEST:

County Clerk

EXECUTED ON _____, 2018

Reading Council President

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Submitted to Mayor: _____

Date: _____

Received by the Mayor’s Office: _____

Date: _____

Approved by Mayor: _____

Date: _____

Vetoed by Mayor: _____

Date: _____ EXECUTED ON _____, 2018

Lower Alsace Township Board of Supervisors Chair

ATTEST:

Municipal Secretary

EXECUTED ON _____, 2018

Alsace Township Board of Supervisors Chair

ATTEST:

Municipal Secretary

EXECUTED ON _____, 2018

Mt. Penn Borough Council President

ATTEST:

Municipal Secretary



RESOLUTION NO. ____-2025

Adopting the Natural Lands Trails Study and Forest Stewardship Plan and encouraging the City of Reading City Council to do the same.

WHEREAS, The City of Reading and the Mount Penn Preserve Partnership (MP3) COG partnered with Berks Nature and Berks Area Mountain Bike Association (BAMBA) to perform a Trails Study and Forest Stewardship Plan to protect and ensure the sustainability of the forest and trail system for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the plan prepared by Natural Lands carefully assessed the conditions at this 1000+ acre property through multiple site visits and meetings with key stakeholders; and to help them develop a plan broken out into regions across

WHEREAS, Natural Lands prepared a regional plan across Mt. Penn that if implemented will support and protect the preserves recreational use and ecological health for the foreseeable future.

NOW THEREFORE, the MP3 COG adopts the Natural Lands Trails Study and Forest Stewardship Plan and encourages the City of Reading City Council to do the same.

Adopted by the MP3 on _____, 2025

MP3 COG Chair

Attest:

MP3 Secretary

MP3 COG Marketing Report
December 4, 2024
Lower Alsace Township

Committee Members: Beth Burkovich (Chair); Corrie Crupi; Kim Mallatratt; Lee C. Olsen, AIA; Mike Reinert; Rick Royer

Promotions for Reading Blues Fest and the Remainder of 2024

- Marketing and promotions has concluded for the Reading Blues Fest held in November 2024.
- MP3 Marketing Committee Members that volunteered the evening of the Reading Blues Fest: Lee C. Olsen, Kim Mallatratt, and Mike Reinert.
- [All other events held in the Mount Penn Preserve for the remainder of 2024 have been included on the MP3 Facebook page and the MP3 website.](#)
- [If any additional events need to be included for 2024 or 2025, please email mountpennpreserve@gmail.com with event title, date, time, location, and short summary of event.](#)
- [For more info on events: www.mtpennpreserve.org/events](http://www.mtpennpreserve.org/events)

MP3 Website

- MP3 marketing has not found an MP3-affiliated volunteer to assist the committee with website maintenance.

MP3 Marketing and Promotions for 2025

- MP3 marketing discussed different ways to promote the MP3. Some ideas included tv ads, a budget for MP3 marketing to boost digital social media posts, and billboard advertising.
- The MP3 marketing committee requests the MP3 COG provide an area of focus for the Marketing and Promotions Committee in 2025.

Environmental Report

I want to alter the year's remaining Skyline cleanup schedule. Only one more cleanup is planned, December 7 at 9:00AM at the Pagoda. Please delete the existing November and December dates and put the new date on your calendars.

Also, as of December 7 I will resign as chairman of the MP3 Environmental and Land Use Committee.

As for the monthly Skyline cleanups, Ross Harter, a regular volunteer, has expressed interest to resume that task only. He has been an enthusiastic volunteer for more than a year. I believe he would take over without a problem. I plan to stay involved in cleanups helping Ross get underway.

I want to extend an invitation to all MP3 board committee members to participate in this end of the year cleanup event. Please try to come out and welcome Ross.

It has been my pleasure to assist MP3 for the last 3 years. The mountain preserve, Pagoda and Skyline Drive provide Reading and Berks County its unique recognizable identity. Sadly, vandalism, littering and destructive activity continue without a definitive solution. A temporary strong police presence would certainly put an end to it quickly. There's hope the proposed gating, surveillance and guard rails will significantly reduce those problems.

We need to protect and maintain these valuable assets that give us civic pride and wholesome recreational activities to our community.

Sincerely,

Jim Frank