



## Town of Oak Ridge Mountains to Sea Trail Committee Meeting

### Meeting Minutes

Oak Ridge Town Hall | Oak Ridge, NC

September 23, 2025

**Attendees:** Anne Steele, Martha Pittman, Moses Perry, Jackson Heltsey (Troop 149 Scout), Frank Campione, Jeff Richter, Andrew Heltsley, Joel Deaton, Stephanie Ferrell

#### Introductions

#### Review and approval of the minutes from the August 2025 MST meeting

#### Introduction to Eagle Scout Project – Jackson Heltsley (Troop 149)

- Jackson's project will be to develop and install informational signs to be placed in strategic places along the Headwaters Trail
- Project responsibilities including determining what will be featured on the signs and how many signs will be needed
- Jackson will be responsible for content and design
- Anne will put Jackson in touch with Mike Kimmel to talk about the trail, content and location of signs
- To meet Eagle Scout project completion deadlines, Jackson will work with Anne in between MST Committee meetings on the content approvals

#### Project updates

Recent workdays on the Pemberley/Carriage Cove trails were very productive. Brent Laurenz, Executive Director of the Friends of the MST, and Betsy Brown, Associate Director of Friends of the MST joined for the first workday. On that day, posts were set. On the second day (Sept 20), the trusses were set, and the planks were set across the bridge. One more workday is needed to complete the bridge.

After the bridge is built, some regular trail maintenance will be needed.

Construction on the parking lot behind Scuba Tools will begin on Monday, Sept 29. There will be nine parking spaces in the lot.

The trail system from the parking lot to the end with the figure eight trails included is measured to be approximately 2 miles.

**Ashford easement** – a hearing date has been requested but has not been scheduled and it is probably several months out. The next check-in with the town council on the status of the trail easement is the November Town Council meeting.

**Grants** - Bandera received a \$500K grant for trail development and Kernersville received a grant to help with the development of the Piedmont Greenway.

### **Reports**

**MST** - Joel ordered 5 of the safety orange caps.

Martha attended the MST highlight meeting which included the status of the MST trail off the Blue Ridge Parkway. The final section of trail to/from Hanging Rock is being flagged through Danbury.

**Town Manager** – Bill has talked to Brock about addressing the upkeep of the trail along Pepper Road. Brock will talk to Joel about upkeep options for the weeds. The trail is also uneven and needs to be flattened out when the ground crew is available.

Sean is working on the map to outline the trails, open spaces and easements.

**Heritage Day** – planning a booth. Anne and Martha will be working the day.

**Committee Membership** – when people are ready to commit, complete the form on the website.

**Trail workdays – Saturday, Oct 11 (finish bridge behind Scuba Tools) and Wednesday, Oct 22 (grooming trails behind Carriage Cove/Pemberly – start behind Scuba tools and people may be re-directed to other areas).** Moving forward, we will remove the “max” number of volunteers on SignUp Genius

**Next meeting of the MST Committee is scheduled for October 28 at 6:00 pm in the Oak Ridge Town Hall**

**The meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted by

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Anne Steele, Chair