



## Mebane Trail Rangers

October 6, 2022

### Minutes

1. Mebane Trail Rangers (MTR) met on Thursday, October 6, 2022 at Lake Michael. The meeting started at 6:30 and 17 were in attendance.
2. New Business
  - a. Guest Speaker – Sherri welcomed Aaron Davis, Mebane Recreation and Parks Director. Aaron shared an update on the playground at Cates Farm Park. Mebane is applying for an AFP grant (accessibility for parks) which will benefit children and veterans with disabilities. The equipment that is being purchased is through Beanstalk Builders out of Morganton, NC and can be viewed here: <https://www.beanstalkbuilders.com/playgrounds> this style of playground allows anyone with a disability to play. MTR agreed to write a letter of support for the grant.
  - b. Gear Review – Jason Smith  
Jason reviewed numerous ultralight backpacks. The packs he reviewed are purchased online and one of his favorites is [www.liteaf.com](http://www.liteaf.com). The liteaf packs range from \$250 - \$350 and can be custom ordered for your size. Using an ultralight pack is worth it on long hikes because you aren't burdened with the weight of the pack. This allows for a more comfortable hike.
  - c. Updates from September
    1. I Am the MST documentary event held in Hillsborough at the Orange County Library, September 24th. Bhavna and Vicki stated the event was a success with over 60 in attendance. MTR provided muffins and coffee for guests. A big thanks to Bhavna, Shannon and Vicki for providing the refreshments and Libbie for speaking on behalf of the club. Thanks to ALL MTR who showed up to support this event. Find the 4 part documentary on the MST here: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLV5hSCv0tswFyQNnO1gyv0e1MY0mcgcv5>
    2. Autumn Fest downtown Mebane – Sherri reported the event was cancelled due to hurricane Ian.
    3. Hikes – Gail and Alan are leading hikes every Saturday at 9:00 AM at Cates Farm and Sherri leads hikes every Sunday at 1:30 on our city

trails and we meet at the Bell Garden. Follow Mebane Walks on FB for updates.

- d. Volunteer Opportunities for October – Sherri asked if anyone would like to lead hikes on Sundays from the Bell Garden.
- e. Tee Shirts – Sherri asked that everyone in attendance vote on their favorite tee shirt material. Four samples were provided.
- f. Brainstorming for Year of the Trail events – all  
IF you would like to volunteer to lead or help with one of the initiatives below please let Sherri know ASAP. REMINDER!! Our guest in May is Jennifer Pharr Davis! We are creating an event at the Mebane Community Park and this will require help from everyone. Other ideas:
  - 1. Junior Ranger program – Meagan is presenting in Dec
  - 2. Someone to create a 2-3 part video series on Leave No Trace principles
  - 3. Section hike segment 9 of the MST (our section) 60 miles from Greensboro to Eno River
  - 4. Fundraiser – Bar crawl on Clay Street – which is the MST
  - 5. Have some type of interactive experience on trails using QR codes
  - 6. Create some type of passport program (you receive a stamp after completing a hike, task, etc)
  - 7. Gear swap
  - 8. Night hike
- g. November meeting – We will meet at 6:30 at the MACC on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, and our guest speakers are Rebecca, Jill, and Tracy. They will share their experience planning and backpacking 100 miles on the Appalachian Trail. Please share the event!! All are welcome.
- h. Sang Happy Trails and adjourned at 8:00 PM