

**Notes from Bike/Hike Meeting
December 15, 2015**

Present: Lynn Goldman, Tom Kelso, Mary Pat Holewinski, Andy Hamilton, Peter Fernandez, Judy Hendrixson, Dick Patterson, Liz Wyckoff, Taylor Thompson, Chris Stanford, Baker Engineers, Shawn Touhill, Board of Supervisors Liaison and Stephanie Mason, Doylestown Township Manager.

Guest: Bucks County Planning Commission: Lynn Bush, Dave Sebastian and Rich Brahler

Review of Projects

Heritage Trail – Mr. Stanford indicated that the barrier has been installed; they are waiting for the fence to be installed. He is going to follow up with the contractor to make sure the fence is installed.

Neshaminy Greenway Phase III – The plans for bringing the path through the sewer plant to the train station and creating some additional parking near the existing trail was reviewed and shifting the parking lot about 15', making an improvement to the driveway at the crossing, trying to avoid the wetlands. Mr. Stanford indicated that it would be tight but doable. 5' to 10' wide driveway and the trail will line up with Teal Drive in New Britain Township.

We will be holding a meeting with the residents in New Britain Township in the new year. The one resident that is already interested in the Bike Trail and will provide the easement which will run through the cemetery property and pop out onto the three properties in New Britain Borough.

Meeting scheduled with one of the residents in Doylestown Township who just moved here, Mr. Hoffman, seems very interested. The property over the creek is Mr. Emmel's and he is not necessarily in favor of the path however, he indicated that the Township will need to do what it needs to do and that we should just go ahead.

We will probably need to move forward with condemnation. The committee recommended that Mr. Stanford obtain a quote and that Mr. Kelso present that quote to the Board of Supervisors in the new year.

On the other side of the railroad track, approaching the SEPTA Train Station, New Britain Borough is obtaining an appraisal for the Erickson Property and that should be completed shortly.

Lower State Road – Mr. Stanford indicated that we have already received the safety approval from SEPTA and clearing from PennDot for the crossing, we still need to obtain the environmental approval. In addition we need the easements, we know that most of it will be attaching to existing trail and right of way but we will need the easement from two properties. One of which is very agreeable the other Mr. Ball is not. We will need to follow the guidelines to obtain condemnation from Mr. Ball. We did send him a letter indicating with pictures the need for the easement and found out that he does not exactly own the property. It is a partnership, Ford Hook Farms LLC, with a Board of Trustees. The hope is that the members of the Board of Trustees, the Burpee's will understand the importance to the community and work with the Township in acquiring the easement.

We will have to follow the federal guidelines. Mr. Stanford will obtain the quotes; give them to Mr. Kelso who will present them to the Board of Supervisors in mid-January.

Presentation - Cross Keys –

Bucks County Planning Commission was present and indicated through Ms. Bush that the county had received an \$100,000 grant for Doylestown Township/Borough, Plumstead Township & Buckingham Township to work together to improve the appearance of the Cross Keys Area, improve traffic flow and pedestrian circulation.

The Bucks County Planning Commission has begun to evaluate the land uses in the four municipalities. Trying to find a vision for the area, galvanizing circulation, developing opportunities areas and creating road improvements perhaps through ordinances or other economic improvements.

Mr. Brahler indicated that there are 11 signalized intersections that DVRPC had evaluated and Gilmore, hired by the County, has also done some reviews of the signals.

Discussion occurred regarding the data for Cold Spring Creamery Road and North Street and the timings and perhaps implementing an adaptive control program similar to that on Route 611 which has been very successful.

The intersection at Old Easton Road was discussed and the ways of rerouting, making only right hand turns, trying to eliminate a signal at that intersection.

Concern about bike crossings going out into Buckingham was raised.

Mr. Touhill who owns businesses in that area, raised concerns about cars not being able to make lefts in hopes that the opportunities will be evaluated especially if new access points further up on Easton Road come to fruition.

New Business –

Mr. Fernandez talked about signs and replacement of certain signs that have faded such as directional signs. It was suggested that be addressed in the new year. If the locations can be identified then the signs can be addressed and replaced if needed.

Ms. Goldman mentioned that there is a \$500 sale on electric bicycles.

Holiday Bike Tour –

Ms. Wyckoff indicated that there was a Holiday Light Bike Tour that 120 people took Sunday night. There is also a group being formed called, Women Bike D-Town and encourages women to come out and bike there are all levels of riders.

Ms. Goldman talked about a Dog Ushering Bike Ride and Race that seems very popular as well as a High rider Race that is being proposed.

Trail Awareness Day –

Mr. Kelso indicated that Buckingham Township held one at the same time but not too many people came out. Perhaps looking at doing something more regional next year with ours may be helpful.

DVRPC –

Is stressing bicycle mapping, origin and destination.

Mr. Hamilton indicated that the request to install sharrows on Pebble Hill Road every 200 feet at a total cost of about \$35,000 should be the goal.

Ms. Goldman indicated that perhaps the Committee could raise \$3,000 toward the sharrows.

Mr. Hamilton wants to send a letter to Secretary Richards the PennDot Transportation Secretary and Steve Dunlap the Bicycle Coordinator for the state and call upon them for assistance since Bicycle Route S connects to the Route 202 Parkway and the eventual 911 Memorial Trail which the East Coast Greenway is working on.

Ms. Mason indicated that the Township's 2016 Budget is set and that there is no funding allocated for sharrows at \$35,000.

Elections –

On motion of Mr. Kelso, seconded by Ms. Holewinski – Lynn Goldman was selected Chariman.

On motion of Mr. Kelso, seconded by Ms. Goldman – Judy Hendrixson was selected as Vice Chariman.

Both motions carried unanimously.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason
Township Manager