

**Bike/Hike Meeting Minutes**  
**December 15, 2020, 8:00am – Meeting was held via Zoom**

**Present:** Lynn Goldman, Chairman; Judy Hendrixson, Vice Chairman; Tom Kelso; Mary Pat Holewinski; Andy Hamilton; Randy Cohen; Larry Gage; Shelle Clancy, New Britain Township; Marilyn Jacobson; Cynthia Jones, New Britain Township; Liz Wyckoff; Chris Stanford, Baker Engineers; Steve Disciullo, Baker Engineers; Andrew Oles; Paul Gordon, Bucks County; Nancy Santacecilia, Board of Supervisors Liaison and Stephanie Mason, Township Manager.

**Minutes Approval** – Approval of the minutes from **November 17, 2020**, on motion of Ms. Holewinski seconded by Ms. Hendrixson the minutes were unanimously approved.

**Review of Projects**

**Route 202 (Central Park – Pooles Corner) Trail Feasibility Study**

Mr. Disciullo indicated that he received the comments from the committee on the virtual room and is working to implement those details. He is hoping to be able to roll this information out around January 5, 2021. The Borough and Township will then be able to coordinate send letters to residents.

**Old New Road - Update**

N/A

**Neshaminy Greenway – Bristol to Upper State – Update**

Ms. Jones indicated that the ribbon cutting would be sometime in the spring and Mr. Stanford indicated that they had their state inspection, and no major issues with Penn Dot were brought up. He thanked everyone again for their help with the recent tree planting.

**Turk Road Area Feasibility - Implementation of Study Findings**

Nothing new to report.

**Shady Retreat Safe Routes to School Trail – Update –**

Penn Dot is requiring a detour plan when the sidewalk is replaced. A pedestrian detour will also be required with the structural pedestrian crossing of the bridge. In addition, Penn Dot is requiring the deck surface to be replaced with an epoxy overlay. The crossing of the bridge, will need to shift people to the other side or use barrels along the bridge to buffer them. Shady Retreat will require the same thing. Trail detour should be in place for several months, anticipate start date sometime late summer or fall.

**Bucks County Trail – Update –**

Mr. Gordon indicated he has two projects.

The first is the Neshaminy Greenway Almshouse to Turk Park. Utility clearance is under review by Penn Dot.

The second is the section of the Neshaminy Greenway known as Dark Hollow project from Almshouse to Valley Road. He indicated that a number of residents from the neighborhood attended the Doylestown Township EAC meeting and that the County has a portal on the Bucks County Planning Commission (BCPC) website with information dating back to 2014 about the project. He also indicated that the County has determined that they won't be installing the proposed parking lot on the Eisold property. The County has also decided to create a Citizens Advisory Design Committee to work with the Bucks County Planning Commission and the engineer for the project. The Township will receive an official request to have representatives from the EAC and Bike/Hike participate as well as residents from the Pebble Hill Road area.

Ms. Hendrixson indicated that she joined the EAC on Saturday along with some of the residents and Supervisor Dan Wood, who lives near the project and walked the area. She indicated that there are a number of existing wide dirt foot paths. The paths have been used by horses as well as ATV's. The paths have been established by residents in the area. The group of citizens and members of the Township EAC are very well educated about the environment, stormwater and have concerns about the proposed trail. Ms. Hendrixson indicated that she is very concerned and disheartened about comments she heard from members of the EAC, who were very critical of the Bike/Hike Committee's efforts since 1992 to install 30 miles of trails especially those along the Neshaminy Creek. Although, many indicated they haven't necessarily been on a lot of the Township trails. She believes that working with Bucks County is very important and that the Bike/Hike Committee should be up to speed on riparian buffers, watershed and environmental impacts etc. so that when conversations occur everyone is on the same page.

Mr. Oles asked that the area is a nice oasis but are ATV's permitted on County property? Mr. Gordon said that ATV's are not permitted however catching people is difficult.

Mr. Hamilton, who lives in the area indicated that there are a couple of neighbors who use the paths that are out there for ATV and horseback riding.

Ms. Goldman indicated that it was big of the County to give up the parking lot and have no access from the Pebble Hill Road side to the trail. She indicated that the information on the County's website is great.

Ms. Hendrixson indicated that there are areas that are wet and would certainly need to be addresses. It was also indicated that many of the residents would like to see the 2 ½ mile portion be completely boardwalk.

Mr. Kelso indicated that we have experience with various trail surfaces and non-paved flat trails doesn't always work when you have slopes. You need to be able to address the type of pavement that is needed. He indicated that in 30 years the Township has had no serious maintenance issues on its trails although, those near a floodplain area do get muddy but remain easily passable.

Mr. Gordon indicated that the County is exploring areas of erosion. He indicated that although Mr. Walther doesn't live in the area, he lives in Warwick, because of his background in streambank erosion he will be asked to serve on the Citizens Advisory Design Committee.

Ms. Goldman indicated that the Bike/Hike supports the process the County is working on to be inclusionary with the residents and the Township Bike/Hike and EAC Committees.

Mr. Hamilton made a comment about the Township ordinances relating to impervious surface and what is considered impervious vs. porous.

### **Pump Tract – Update –**

Ms. Wyckoff indicated that the Pump Tract is closed for the season. The Santa / Winter Lights Ride through town was very well attended but socially distanced.

### **Other Business / New Projects for Consideration**

The Mapping Program. Ms. Hendrixson indicated that she, Ms. Goldman, Mr. Clark and Mr. Gage met via zoom and discussed the mapping program. They discussed what they would like to see Mr. Spindler provide with a not to accede amount of \$3,000.00. There is software that can be purchased and easily updated for about \$150, but a map that would show the trails, show the share the road areas in the Borough is what they'd like to see. Also, making sure that connection to our neighboring municipalities needs to be identified. In addition, there is a list of things the Committee would like to see for the project including information on parks, schools and museums.

**Closing Out 2020:** Ms. Goldman indicated that she appreciated every ones help this year and although it was difficult because of the Pandemic we made it. She indicated that every year there is always one person on the Committee, who sort of stands out each year that she likes to recognize and share a bottle of wine with. She recognized Mr. Roger Clark, who stood up in a big way and followed up on a lot of things for the Committee. Thank you to Roger.

Everyone wished each other a Happy Holiday.

**Adjournment** - Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:04am. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 8:00am via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason  
Township Manager