

Doylestown Township Bike/Hike Committee
Meeting Notes
May 21, 2024, 8:00 am
Doylestown Township Municipal Building

Present: Present: Lynn Goldman, Chairman; Tom Kelso, Vice Chairman; Judy Hendrixson; Marilyn Jacobson; Mary Pat Holewinski; Rick James; Larry Gage; Nicole McElroy; Emily Valmore; Cynthis Jones; Chris Hoerger; Louise Silberg; Caitlin Hernandez, Doylestown Borough; Rich Brahler; John Wolf; Christian Regosch, Bucks County; Chris Stanford, Baker Engineers; Judy Dixon, Board of Supervisors Liaison; and Karen Sweeney, Director of Parks and Recreation.

Minutes Approval March 19, 2024 – On motion of Ms. Hendrixson, seconded by Ms. Jacobson, the minutes were approved unanimously.

45 Sauerman Road – Sketch Plan

Chris Stanford provided a general description of the project. Mr. Kelso referred to the P&R Plan recommending trail connection to Sauerman Park and noted it was a good idea. Suggested consideration as part of the subdivision plan - Ms. Hendrixson suggested discussing it with the planning committee. All agreed it was a tight area and trail connection to Sauerman would be best on opposite side of the road. Following discussion including possibilities of easement, Fee in Lieu – Ms. Hendrixson recommended Fee In Lieu of future Bike/Path connection, seconded by Ms. McElroy; Unanimously agreed.

PennDOT - 202 Parkway Bike Lanes – Email from R. Brailer dated 4/25/24

The committee discussed notice from PennDOT expressing safety concerns and desire to eliminate bike lanes on the 202 Parkway and recommending transition to utilize the multi-modal trail, no longer maintaining the bike lane, and removing lines. The committee expressed concern for sacrificing the bike lane noting the importance of bike lanes for riders riding over 25 mph. Also noting unsafe conditions and lack of maintenance on the bike lane and questioning the sacrifice of bikes to cars.

The committee expressed concern for the giving up of something for nothing and discussed the importance of general trail safety and protection of trail users. Suggestions for better protection of trail from road traffic. Discussion included buffers, trees, widening the trail. The committee agreed they wanted more information and consideration of additional/alternative option

Ms. Goldman requested that Mr. Gage craft a memo for the Board of Supervisors.

Safe Cycling for School Children – Update

Ms. McElroy reported that the Bike to School Day, from Central Park and Kutz Elementary, was a success with 50 children participating and including bike safety review and helmet fit prior – Noting a longer ride in the future could be considered. Ms. Valmont noted Doyle also hosts a bike to school day. Ms. McElroy suggested development of an educational curriculum – Bike education followed by bike to school day. The committee expressed enthusiasm toward the idea.

Ms. Hernandez noted that the Borough hosted a successful first-time Ice Cream Ride with 40 children participating - Beginning at the Burpee Pavilion, through the museums, Pine Street culmination at Evolution Candy.

Pebble Hill Trail – Update (informational)

The committee was informed that a meeting was scheduled with Borough Manager, John Davis the following day (5.22.2024) at 1:00 pm. Mr. Stanford noted that an application had been submitted for the Regional Trails Programs. Fingers crossed it's received.

New Britain Road Trail Project – Update

Mr. Stanford noted that erosion control had been approved and that things are moving forward. Mr. Kelso noted that the roundabouts are approximately ½ done and trail is completed. Ms. Goldman said completion is anticipated for the Fall.

Shady Retreat Safe Routes to School Trail – Update

Mr. Stanford noted that construction is moving along. The committee concurred that the trail looks great and expressed overall enthusiasm.

Pump Track

Ms. Hernandez noted that the borough's public works department is completing the re-contouring and drainage with reopening anticipated within a week or two.

Update County Trail Projects

Mr. Brahler noted that trail progress is moving forward slowly and is working through the quote process – Noting that the state is pretty good at assisting with over run costs. Mr. Kelso noted costs today are much greater.

Adjournment - Being no further the meeting adjourned at 9:02 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen A Sweeney
Director of Parks and Recreation