Doylestown Township Bike/Hike Committee Meeting Notes June 18, 2024, 8:00 am Doylestown Township Municipal Building

Present: Present: Lynn Goldman, Chairman; Tom Kelso, Vice Chairman; Judy Hendrixson; Rick James; Larry Gage; Roger Clark; Cynthia Jones, New Britain Township; Caitlin Hernandez, Doylestown Borough; Christian Regosch, Bucks County; Mary Pat Holewinski, New Britain Borough, Judy Dixon, Board of Supervisors Liaison; and Stephanie J. Mason, Township Manager.

Guests: Ed Denton; John Flower

Welcome

Ms. Goldman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mr. Denton indicated that he was in attendance because he has a concern regarding the narrowness of Spring Valley near Pebble Hill over a culvert. He enjoys riding his bicycle in that area and says it's dangerous, he needs to dismount when going over the culvert. He was hoping that the Bike/Hike Committee might be able to address his concerns and install a ¼ mile bike trail and culvert crossing in the future. The goal is to create a trail from Hunter to Pebble Hill crossing and accessing Hillcrest Drive. The Bike/Hike Committee discussed needs and options that could be implemented but Ms. Goldman concluded that, she appreciated Mr. Denton's participation and if there are enough residents interested perhaps this could become a future project of the Bike/Hike Committee to work on. The Bike/Hike Committee then shared some information about the Pebble Hill Road Project that they are working on as well. Mr. Kelso did offer to go out and look at the area.

Minutes Approval May 21, 2024 – On motion of Ms. Hendrixson, seconded by Mr. Gage, the minutes were approved unanimously.

PennDOT – 202 Parkway Bike Lanes – Email from R. Brahler 4/25/24 – Continued Discussion

Ms. Mason indicated that this matter was reviewed with the Board of Supervisors and tabled with the intent that the Bike/Hike Committee would provide more input.

After much discussion regarding PennDOT's desire to remove the painted bike lane on the 202 Parkway, the Bike/Hike Committee suggested that a meeting with Mr. Fran Hanney from PennDOT may be desirable. The concern of the Bike/Hike Committee is to make sure that the existing trails along the Parkway are improved for safety purposes. Especially those that sit very close to the existing roadway. Ms. Goldman indicated that perhaps even trees or shrubs could be donated through the Bike/Hike Committee and planted, this may help slow traffic and provide additional barriers. Ms. Mason indicated that she would reach out to Mr. Brahler and arrange a meeting with a few members of the Bike/Hike Committee.

Mr. John Flower was in attendance and discussed the fact that his company sells e-bikes. The Bike/Hike Committee discussed the need to address e-bikes on the trail system. They indicated that Mr. Maxon, who Mr. Flower is familiar with teaches a class at Delaware Valley University. This is a topic that the Committee has begun to draft an ordinance regarding e-bikes working with the Police Departments on. There is a draft ordinance under consideration that needs to be finalized. Mr. Kelso is taking the lead on it.

Easton Road Trail Township to Borough – Update

Ms. Mason indicated that the Township has received a \$2.2 million TASA Grant for the Borough / Township Connector. Mr. Stanford indicated that design should be finalized by the end of 2025. This will tie into the round-a-bouts and trail at Mercer Hill (AKA Tabor property).

Pebble Hill Trail – Update

Mr. Stanford indicated that the Township had a good meeting regarding Pebble Hill with Mr. Davis, Ms. Hernandez, Mr. Kelso and Ms. Mason to address the project. There is work that needs to occur in the Borough once the trail ends past the Country Club. Mr. Davis indicated that a Street Scape Project is what was planned in the Study. The Township applied for a Regional Trails Grant that would help with preliminary engineering, if that is not received there's an opportunity that TASA may provide a support grant for engineering as well.

There was some discussion about when construction of the Brooks Tract Trail would commence. Ms. Mason will check with the Township Engineer and get back to Mr. Clark.

New Britain Road Trail Project – Update

Mr. Stanford indicated that engineering and design have been finalized. The E & S has been processed. He will work with the Township, Director of Operation and staff on looking for this to go out to bid and be part of the 2025 budget.

Shady Retreat Safe Routes to School Trail – Update

Is in progress, completion is anticipated sometime in November. Everyone who has seen the progress is pleased.

Safe Cycling for School Children – Update

Ms. Goldman indicated that Ms. McElroy will target third graders this year in elementary schools to learn about safe riding techniques, simple bike repairs and proper use of helmets. Hoping to expand from Kutz Elementary to perhaps Doyle & Linden next year. She will also continue to work with Transportation Management Association (TMA Bucks).

Update County Trail Projects

Mr. Regosch indicated that he has no updates on current projects. He did indicate that the county will be working with a new consultant for the Neshaminy Greenway Trial Phase I Project.

Pump Track

Ms. Hernandez indicated that the drainage issues have been fixed and things are up and running and doing well.

Prioritize List of Future Projects

Proposed Tail at Pine Run – Mr. Kelso indicated that he didn't have an update on Pine Run. However, he would add Mr. Denton's suggestion for trail at Spring Valley near Pebble Hill Road, again he stated that he would go out and take a look at the area.

Adjournment – Being no further the meeting adjourned, on motion of Mr. James, seconded Ms. Hendrixson the meeting adjourned at adjourned at 9:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason Township Manager