

Doylestown Township Bike/Hike Committee
Meeting Notes
September 17, 2024, 8:00 am
Doylestown Township Municipal Building

Present: Lynn Goldman, Chairman; Tom Kelso, Vice Chairman; Judy Hendrixson; Roger Clark; Louise Silberg; Mary Pat Holewinski; Marilyn Jacobson; Larry Gage; Emily Valmore; Nicole McElroy, Caitlin Hernandez, Doylestown Borough; Liaison Judy Dixon, and Stephanie J. Mason, Township Manager.

Welcome

Ms. Goldman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes Approval – August 20, 2024 – On motion of Ms. Hendrixson, seconded by Ms. Jacobson, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Easton Road Trail Township to Borough - Update

There was discussion regarding follow up with the property owner next to Tabor and Callan, communicating with the engineer as telephone pole is in the middle of the trail, this needs to be looked into.

Ms. Goldman stated that she would like Mr. Stanford to attend upcoming meetings since he hasn't replaced Mr. Disciullo it's difficult and it would be helpful to have him attend. Mr. Kelso will reach out.

Bike/Hike Map Pedestrian Walkway was discussed. Ms. Jacobson indicated how they reference trails as pedestrian walkways. Consensus was that everyone agreed with the reference.

Everyone likes the map that New Britain Township used at the new trail head on Upper State Road.

Pebble Hill Trail – Update

There is no funding for the engineering review study was not received.

Mr. Gage indicated that there is TIP money, for carbon reduction that was recently provided to Montgomery County for \$45 million. He questioned how do we get some of those funds?

Mr. Kelso commented that we're not going to be able to apply for such funding until the rights-of-way and construction easements are obtained. In addition, until we can get an idea of cost Mr. Kelso suggested having Mr. Stanford put together a narrow scope especially focus on the bridge, figure out what those numbers are since it is Bicycle Route S. Perhaps an application may make it more palatable for funding. We will need to go for a really big grant, and we will have to wait, design the bridge offsite and then drop it in. Following up meetings with more property owners, especially those who abut the pond are needed. Mr. Kelso to speak to Mr. Stanford about preparing a master plan concept sketch.

Mr. Gage indicated that it would be good to spend money in an overall design considering the whole stretch from the Spring Valley Area all the way to the Borough. Once we have an idea of the whole thing, we can begin to phase it, it will show everyone the major vision for the project. Mr. Clark concurred on the overall concept of phases. Ms. Goldman also indicated that the Borough has to extend sidewalk and be part of the discussion.

Mr. Kelso said that the committee needs to be focused on solutions and make sure we can achieve what we put forth. He indicated that marketing it to different agencies and the impact of the round-a-bouts and

the connections, connecting to paths slowing down traffic, making it more walkable is the best approach. He agreed that putting a master plan for Pebble Hill Road including the Doylestown Country Club piece makes sense.

New Britain Road Trail Project – Update

Slated to go to bid later this fall.

Shady Retreat Safe Routes to School Trail – Update

The project is coming along nicely, anticipate ribbon cutting sometime in late October or early November.

Ms. Mason indicated that a resident from Olde Colonial Greene stopped by to talk with her and Mr. Tomko about the guiderail. Although, the guiderail was not changed from where it has always been out there, now that the trail is there you have to go down and cross Olde Colonia Greene vs. going along Limekiln. Of course, people can still walk along Limekiln on the opposite side of the road facing traffic as is the norm. He strongly believes this needs to be amended. Ms. Mason indicated that Mr. Stanford is looking into it and if there is the ability to accommodate Mr. Stover's suggestion it will be pursued. However, it has to meet Penn Dot guidelines for guiderails.

The silhouettes are complete, and we are looking into having them added to the fence line by the contractor.

In terms of the leaf scorch that is existing in some of the Oak trees we've requested Mr. McMullin to provide the location of the leaf scorch trees.

Safe Cycling for School Children – Update

Nicole McElroy emailed Ms. Goldman and is working with the Physical Education teachers at Linden & Buckingham Friends to do a safe cycling event next year. In addition, she's reaching out to Doyle Elementary principal & Kutz to continue educating the elementary schools on safe cycling. She's continuing to work with TMA Bucks and it's going well. She also believes that Linden is onboard for the safe cycling program, along with Buckingham Friends School. It will be part of their physical education program. Even though Buckingham Friends is private there a number of children from our area that will benefit from the program as they bike into town from where they live, having four schools involved would be great.

Update County Trail Projects

Mr. Regosch indicated that they have a new consultant for the Neshaminy Greenway Phase I, timeline hasn't been determined yet. They are renewing the GP7 DEP permit. They are hoping to have 85% design completed so they could let the project sometime in March of 2025, it has been pushed back.

Core Creek Park – The County is complete the Greenway Trail near the end of the year.

The County Park Plan is being updated, there is a survey which everyone should complete as there is a section on trails.

There was also discussion about getting Angie Nagel, Bucks County Parks & Recreation Director to attend an upcoming meeting to discuss trails.

Pump Track

Ms. Goldman indicated that she spoken to Ms. Wyckoff and Ms. Hernandez indicated that there is some thought about paving the track over continuing to keep in dirt, maintenance issues are the driving factor. They are going to be looking into the cost to do the paving, they know it will be over \$17,000.

There was a question about whether roller blades or skateboarders would be able to use it? Ms. Hernandez indicated she wasn't sure at this time. It is definitely getting a lot of active use, and the Borough is considering a skateboard park near Fanny Chapman, but nothing has been decided, their Park & Rec board is going to continue discussing it.

Prioritize List of Future Projects:

Proposed Tail at Pine Run –

Mr. Kelso has no additional information

Spring Valley – Hunter to Pebble Hill –

It was suggested that this proposed project be tied into the Pebble Hill Road project. Mr. Kelso indicated he has spoken to Mr. Garr, who looked at the bridge, it has old abutments, doesn't have a big opening, we will have to keep looking at it and the right-of-way, Mr. Kelso, suggested that maybe we can try and sketch out something as part of the Master Plan for the area.

Peace Valley Park – Ms. Goldman indicated that she was at Peace Valley, she was stopped by Rosemary & Tim and indicated that they appreciate the trails and the work that has been done with them. They did have a comment about connecting Cayuga in New Britain Township to the Bristol area and that this was needed. It was mentioned that the path is only about 2' wide and could be increased in the future, perhaps when the Bristol Road extension is done.

Adjournment – Being no further the meeting, on motion of Ms. Hendrixson, seconded Ms. Holewinski the meeting adjourned at adjourned at 9:08 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason
Township Manager