

Doylestown Township Bike/Hike Committee
Meeting Notes
September 16, 2025 8:00 am
Doylestown Township Municipal Building

Present: Lynn Goldman, Chairman; Tom Kelso, Vice Chairman; Judy Hendrixson; Emily Valmore; Larry Gage; Roger Clark; Rick James; Christian Regosch, Bucks County Planning Commission; Mary Pat Holewinski, New Britain Borough; Marilyn Jacobson, Chalfont Borough; Judy Dixon, Board of Supervisors Liaison and Stephanie J. Mason, Township Manager.

Guest: Kathy Brown, Park & Recreation Board

Welcome

Ms. Goldman welcomed everyone to the meeting

Minutes Approval – July 15, 2025 – On motion of Ms. Hendrixson, seconded by Mr. Gage, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Pebble Hill Trail – Update

Mr. Kelso believes the presentation to the Board allows for a letter to be sent to residents regarding obtaining easements, however we need to find someone who can do the survey work, the proposal that we received was too high, he is talking to some other surveyors who can submit some proposals.

The Borough is moving forward with the DVRPC grant. Ms. Goldman raised concerns regarding the proposed trail in the Borough section from the Country Club up to the Boy Scouts Office, just past where it is to share the road the bike lane is going to get very narrow, and she's concerned of it creating a problem. She is going to reach out to the Borough and Ms. Mason will reach out to Mr. Stanford. This area is near Hillendale and the Boy Scout Office. Concern is for traffic going to the library.

New Britain Road Trail Project – Update

Will start later this month, Cornell is the contractor on the job, there will be a three-way stop intersection at New Britain and Rolling Hill.

Safe Cycling for School Children – Update

Ms. McElroy is working on this with TMA Bucks regarding the educational aspect of bike safety that will continue. There was also discussion regarding E-Bikes and scooters. Information that the Chief of Police shared in the packet. Everyone thought this was a great handout, and good information. Ms. Valmore thought it should be shared in the schools as part of this program. We want to make sure Ms. McElroy has the information because it is definitely an issue not only in the Township & Borough of children, less than 16 riding E-Bikes, E-Scooters, E-Dirt Bikes etc.

Ms. Brown, Doylestown Township Park & Recreation Board, concurred that the Park & Rec Board has concerns about this issue. Especially within Central Park proper, she said that she has seen a number of children cutting across trails, athletic fields coming from New Britain or Lower State Roads around that area. She is worried about pedestrians with their dogs on leashes that nobody would get "close lined" on those e-bikes or hit a dog or person because they do go rather fast.

The Bike/Hike Committee talked about the etiquette information that they have on the website trying to get that word out, they believe that through the schools it may be a way of sharing information. Also, if that information could be shared with the schools, bike shops, etc. If it could be made into some sort of a poster that it could be shared. Also, if when they're sold if a bell could be sold with them. They thought

that would be important also signage and as Ms. Brown said New Britain Road across from the park to Wells Road could be the outside perimeter, but she also understands a lot of students utilize the park to get to school and that is a concern as well. People are using E-Bikes for transportation. Mr. Kelso stated that he tries to avoid the park when he is on his E-Bike because there are so many people, but that may not be the case for everybody. Signs will need to be used once an ordinance is adopted, again this needs to go through education and programs for students as well. Mr. Kelso indicated that parks in New York have banned E-Bikes on the rail trail system. We need to remind people about sharing the road, the 4' zone for passing bikes as well. Ms. Brown indicated that she knows the Park Board wants to make sure they're in sync with the Bike/Hike Committee on any proposals about E-Bikes and signage in the park. Ms. Goldman indicated that they concur that proper signage is needed.

Update County Trail Projects

Mr. Regosch indicated that Phase I, Neshaminy Greenway is moving along. Design is expected in January 2026, funding is still in place, bid would come in the spring and hopefully the project will be concluded in 2027. Working with PennDOT regarding ADA Access at 611 due to the island that is there.

There is a new Director of Transportation, Scott Burton, who will be starting at the County soon.

Pump Track

Ms. Goldman indicated that they've raised about \$35,000, they raised about \$4,500 toward the Witches Ride, and they're selling T-shirts. Mr. James indicated that on Saturday, September 20th a fundraiser, Bike Ride for the Hammerstein Museum, is going to take place, that is \$50 per person and benefits the museum.

Prioritize List of Future Projects:

Proposed Trail at Pine Run

Mr. Kelso said it is still kind of bubbling around, he is still working on his proposal that will be shared with Pine Run and the County for future routes. The Villagers have expressed interest, he wants to get that finalized. It was suggested reaching out to the Shrine in New Britain Township, seeing how a connection could be made there. There was some discussion about the cemetery on Shrine property and how European it is, very nice area.

Ms. Jacobson shared the project they started in 2010, a bridge from Lindenfield to North Branch, it became part of a three-phase project that has concluded. They are very pleased with that trail connections after 15 years.

Ms. Hendrixson suggested the need for more plants along Shady Retreat at Burpee between Iron Hill & Burpee, now that the road has been repaved there is that grass strip, maybe some low level plants. Ms. Mason said she talk to Chris Mason in the Parks Department about what would be appropriate. Also, there was some new delineators that have come out in Pittsburgh and should be evaluated as well. Additional trees near Limekiln and Shady Retreat would be helpful.

Adjournment – Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:08am.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason
Township Manager

