

**Notes from Bike/Hike Meeting
June 17, 2014**

Present: Lynn Goldman, Chairman, Tom Kelso, New Britain Township Intern, Roy Reider, Warrington Township, Sara Patterson, Baker Engineering, Laura Baird, Heritage Conservancy, Marilyn Jacobson, Chalfont Borough, Mary Pat Holewinski, Judy Hendrixson, Paul Gordon & Two Summer Interns, Bucks County Planning Commission, Steve White, Bob Ruddy, Louise Silberg, Buckingham Township, Andy Clark, Doylestown Borough, Dick Patterson and Stephanie Mason, Doylestown Township Manager.

Casa Bella – Preliminary Land Development Plan

Danielle Davis was in attendance to present a four lot subdivision on Sandy Ridge Road with lots that will each be about 3 – 4 acres. She is proposing a 20' wide private lane and a trail connector to the Ash Way trail but does not want internal trails or sidewalks; she would prefer to provide a fee in lieu of improvements for a trail and or any improvements to any exiting trail.

Ms. Goldman commented that since there was a trail across the street the connection was necessary to make from her property but agreed that a trail along the frontage of her property was not necessary. She then thanked Ms. Davis for attending the meeting.

Destination Peace Valley – Update

Ms. Patterson indicated that the contract was awarded to Barwis and they should start sometime in mid-July. Still need to put the bridge out for bid, there are some changes with the E & S that are taking place and that the Neshaminy should be underway soon.

Mary Pat Holewinski indicated that New Britain Borough does not have volunteers available to do the clearing. The contractor scheduled to complete the work.

Neshaminy Greenway Tail –Update

Barwis was awarded the contract, should start July or August depending on weather.

Transferring \$40,000 from the DVRPC Phase 1 to Phase 2 to do the wetland bridge crossing. The \$10,000 received by PECO Green Region Grant will be used for the kiosk.

The committee walked from Blue Jay to Upper State, there is a TAP Grant that is pending approval to reach Upper State however New Britain Township has spoken with the Byers and it does not look like they would be able to provide an easement. However, they are meeting with a couple of the other residents on June 30th and they hope to have agreements with those residents at that time for easements.

Heritage Conservancy

Indicated that they are working with the County to acquire easements for the Neshaminy Greenway from Doylestown heading towards the forks of the Neshaminy this is something they can help with, perhaps create a friends group that would play a role in part of the study. Their organization has done that in the past and could be very beneficial to the Bike/Hike Committee as well.

Mr. Gordon indicated that the Neshaminy Greenway Plan will be going to the County for approval in June and that they will then be able to kick off work to acquire the necessary easements. He also mentioned the Upper Neshaminy area and certainly understood the desire to go through the Byers Property but then would need to probably go on the street or along the creek and then to the neighbors properties nearby. They are looking for

low water crossings that could be utilized and that will tie nicely into plans of both communities, Tri-municipal, the Neshaminy Greenway and the townships.

Grant Submission

The Township is applying for two grants; one for Lower State Road – DCED, multi modal the YMCA to the Route 202 Parkway, this important connector hedging our bets just in case we do not receive the TAP Grant funding.

The other grant will be submitted in July for the Heritage Trail along Route 611 to Turk Road Trail.

County Emergency Management

Mr. Kelso indicated that he and Ms. Mason met with County Emergency Management for trail identification communication. To be able to have signs referring to 911 locations, such NG-29001, this could be inputted into the radio system. He provided a story of an incident where someone was out on the Delaware Canal Trail and had problems and needed assistance, this helps with that. The signage would be fiberglass posts with a sticker about \$25 plus the money for the decals, very easy to identify someone's location. This is a good thing to utilize along the trails.

Mr. White offered his assistance in walking the trails and identifying the information the 911 service would need.

Bike Ride Awareness Day

September 28, 2014 a number of different sections of trail are being mapped and are going to be utilized and publicized to have a ride and allow more people to become more aware of the trails; where to get on, where to get off and what's along the way.

Starting at 10AM, there is a trail ride from the Hospital to Delaware Valley College Route 202 to Lower State Road to Wells Road. Neshaminy Central Park Loop up to the Oktoberfest site and back to the YMCA.

There is a number of others – one that is a little further on the road that goes past Lavender Farm and Mr. Patterson will be taking one through town. Ms. Maurer will be doing a walk/run with moms and baby carriages as well.

They are working with Mr. Boger in Doylestown Borough to help them. Doylestown Hospital will be the kick off point, there will also be a short ride to the Delaware Valley College Market, calling it the Ice Cream Ride.

Information will be coming shortly that will help promote the ride and run that are being organized.

It will be named Trail Awareness Day; Explore Your Neighborhood Trails. More information will be forthcoming.

Ms. Goldman referred to a program in Vermont that the Bicycle Coalition is putting on; it is a variety of classes about riding safety, electric bikes, the mystery of ways of changing tires, etc. She thought it might be a series that we could incorporate as well, something to think about and develop.

Buckingham Township

Reported that their Park & Recreation Committee is working very hard in awareness of the good work being done on the trails and getting help from Paul Gordon and Andy Hamilton, very helpful they recognize the importance of their trails and ways of expanding them.

Warrington Township Update

Mr. Reider reported that PECO has completed technical review being able to use the paver area line for putting in a bicycle in the north/south loop and their committee is working to bring a loop from the park to Bristol Rd. Include a path that encompasses about 15 acres expanding Barness Park to King Park and eventually to Turk Park.

Ms. Goldman commented on all the work that the various communities are doing, coming together to help each other and thanked everyone for their commitment to expanding and improving trails in our communities.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned, the next meeting will be July 15th at 8AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason
Township Manager