

## Notes from Bike/Hike Meeting

February 16, 2016

**Present:** Judy Hendrixson; Liz Wyckott; Paul Gordon, Bucks County; Peter Fernandes; Tom Kelso; Chris Stanford, Baker Engineering; Joel; Sam Bryant, New Britain Borough; Mary Pat Holewinski; Andy Clark; Bob Ruddy; Bill Wert; Ryan Manion, Board of Supervisors Liaison and Stephanie Mason, Township Manager.

### Review of Projects

**Heritage Trail** – Mr. Stanford indicated that the Township would be meeting Thursday with the contractor to resolve the safety fence installation. The good news is that all the material is in; the biggest problem area is being able to protect the area while the installation of the fencing occurs.

Traffic Control will be needed along the Route 611 Bypass, which will have to be outsourced.

**Neshaminy Greenway Phase III** – This is the connector from the Chalfont/New Britain Joint Sewer Authority to the New Britain Train Station.

Ms. Hendrixson, Mr. Kelso, Ms. Mason and Mr. Standford met with the cemetery staff and walked the exterior roadway around the cemetery which will be used as a shared path and roadway. There are areas that will need to be cut out and repaved but a small amount of blacktop will be needed around the perimeter. It was decided that pylon brick entry ways to the trail with bollards and appropriate signage indicating that you are entering a cemetery and that it is a transition path will need to be included in the installation.

The bridge design is underway. Permitting is expected in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Kelso communicated with the sewer treatment plant and resolved the easement needed from them. We expect construction to start in Spring/Summer 2016 and finish up sometime in 2017. We'll be adding six bases to the Chalfont/New Britain Sewer Plant near the existing trail.

**Lower State Road** – PUC approval for the railroad crossing and SEPTA agreement is in process and approved. Additional funding has been allocated from DVRPC we've added over \$400 to the project.

Still awaiting easement from Ford Hook Farm Property, anticipate meeting later this week with a representative of Ford Hook Farm and hopefully get them on board.

**2017 Greenway and Trail Summit Proposal to Host** – After much discussion regarding the concept of hosting the 2017 Greenway Trail Summit with PRPS and DCNR, Ms. Holewinski recommended the committee should go for it. Mr. Wert is interested in helping out as is Mr. Thompson, Mr. Gordon and Ms. Wyckott. Ms. Mason will coordinate the subcommittee.

Ms. Mason reported that the committee received a small grant from the Central Bucks Bicycle Club for a bike repair station. Easily order the kits and place it at the Lower State Road Parkway. This is a perfect area; it is weather proof with the kiosk, just need to be able to secure it. Mr. Kelso will work with Mr. Stanford in being able to get the appropriate kit and coordinate installation with Mr. John.

**Other Business** – Mr. Kelso indicated that the Township's Traffic Advisory Committee has reached out to address areas of concern where bike paths cross various state roadways and that further evaluation and the process we utilize through Baker Engineering and PennDot come into play. Obviously this depends on trail installation when funding is available. Although there are many long term plans, funding is always a source.

**Family Fun and Fitness** – Kaitlyn Finley, Park & Recreation Program Coordinator attended the meeting and talked about Family Fun and Fitness, Sunday, May 15, 2016 from 11:00 – 3:00. It is a program that promotes lifetimes of activities. She reached out to the Bike/Hike Committee to see if they would like to have a presence at the event. Small area, vendor table with information, running an activity on bike safety, promoting the trails, etc.

Mr. Bryant and Ms. Hendrixson were interested; it was suggested reaching out to Bruce Hochman and Andy Hamilton. Ms. Wyckott indicated that she would help out as well.

**Extension of Neshaminy Greenway at Route 611** – Mr. Gordon indicated that the County will be applying for a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Grant (CMAQ). Will be filing the application there is no match from the Township however the Doylestown Community Bike/Hike Committee does support the County's application.

In addition the County met with Peace Valley and Newtown Rail Trail, it was a good meeting in Newtown and about 4.2 of an 8.2 mile trail. There was some vocal opposition in Northampton but overall they believe the issues can be resolved and take the rail and make it a trail. Make it a very positive situation.

A Peace Valley Mr. Gordon indicated contract is moving forward to redo those.

Warrington Township officially appointed a Bike/Hike Committee and Plumstead Township is also working on this as well.

**Silhouettes** – Ms. Hendrixson reported that the program will continue this May. Part of the curriculum design, they are ready to go at the Middle Bucks Institute of Technology. They have CAD cutting program, cutting design. Mr. Kelso suggested we also talk to them about doing bike racks as well.

**Signage** – Mr. Kelso indicated that he has put together a signage plan. He wants to start with the 202 Parkway and Lower State Road, directing people into the borough and to Central Park, etc.

Ms. Hendrixson said that she would finalize things with Mr. Kelso.

**Traffic Advisory Committee** – Mr. Kelso reported that they have concern about the Chapman Road crossing which is a future crossing at Ferry Road. Obviously nothing will happen until such time as there is an opportunity to look for funding to make the crossing an option. That will be worked on with Baker Engineers when and if funding becomes available to make a safe mid-block crossing at that location.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:10am. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, March 15, 2016.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason  
Township Manager