

Bike/Hike Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2018

Present: Lynn Goldman, Chairman; Tom Kelso; Judy Hendrixson; Larry Gage; Cynthia Jones, New Britain Township Supervisor; Paul Gordon, Bucks County; Marilyn Jacobson; Dick Patterson; Katie Maio; Chris Stanford, Baker Engineers; Steve Disciullo, Baker Engineers; Roger Clark; Mary Pat Holewinski; Andy Hamilton; Liz Wyckoff and Stephanie Mason, Township Manager.

Guests:

Minutes Approval – The minutes from the October 16, 2018 were unanimously approved.

Review of Projects

Neshaminy Greenway/Bristol/Upper State Road – Update – Mr. Stanford indicated that it is 95% done. The last approvals are in hand. Traffic with the two bridged will need to be detoured as well during construction. Funding for the project is estimating at 1.3 million but only 1.6 in funding is available.

Mr. Stanford indicated that he has a conference call within the week. Segregating the cost for the bridge that PennDot is requiring and the County wants additional repairs, he will cost out the additional work. He believes that the change in the bridge alone is \$150 thousand. There are other funding sources available; we could go for another grant if needed. That will be part of the discussion with PennDot.

Anticipated construction is in the summer of 2019, concerns about the steel terrace and the prevailing wage that may impact the project. It is part of the Neshaminy Greenway Circuit Trail System.

Turk Road Area Trail Feasibility Study – Update – Mr. Sunderland, East Road, indicated that the speed limit is now 25MPH which is very helpful. He also noted that there are more children in the area so having trail access along Cherry and East would be helpful.

Mr. Stanford indicated that his office would be scheduling a walk of the Buck Run area. He will email everyone with dates. This would be the walk along the creek that was suggested as an alternative location by many people at the July 24, 2018 meeting. This is something that needs further investigation, etc.

Grant Opportunities – In mid-December DVRPC will have a grant opportunity for extensions and connections to the circuit trail network and feasibility studies might be warranted. The area could be the bypass, need PennDot approval, goes into the design and put into the mix connecting East towards 313 connecting to the section of the trail S. Easton Road, etc.

The committee suggested that Mr. Kelso and Mr. Stanford look into the opportunities for this project there is no resolution required.

WAWA – Was granted approval by the Borough and they are donating \$20,000 for the connection of the trail as well as going to do the design to bring the trail south on 611.

Mr. Disciullo, Baker Engineers, showed some maps of areas and talked about Pebble Woods Drive at Pebble Hill Rd or using Old Pebble Hill Rd. to bring people to Pebble Hill and Cherry and crossing also Pebble Valley might be a location the key is to make it safe, possibly with at 4 way stop. He is obtaining the crash date to review. Additionally, Baker is looking to the Pebble Hill access to the Borough. There is a curb to curb with 30' lip, the road does narrow down to about 24', could find room for a trail possibly sharrows needing buffer, need to look at the topography as well.

Shady Retreat Road Safe Route to School Trail – Update – The site plan map highlighted the base line design as an alternative on Shady Retreat. Need to move the sidewalk, looking at possible alternatives, possibly on the opposite side.

The main Limekiln and Shady Retreat connection, there is a large slope and utility poles, field date needs to be done, need to look at different options and stay away from mature trees.

Township would take ownership, possibility for Stonington Farms to abandon their existing trail to the Township. It is an older one but has potential.

There's mid-block crossing at Burpee, 3-way crossing, need to go to Traffic Advisory Committee and look at possibly 3-way stop to address the area. There is a shoulder of 3' – 4' design needs to be completed by 2020.

Bucks County Trail – Update – Mr. Gordon indicated that the Neshaminy Greenway is making progress, wetland approval has been received and archeological approval has been received. Met with Township and updated the plans. Working for connection to Turk Park and working with Mr. Banks at DVRPC, also talking with the shopping center owner providing appropriate buffering, taking out any mature trees, also met with Grundy Hall where they are going to be taking out steps and putting in ramps that design is coming along. Anticipate design completed soon with construction in 2020.

The County received a \$600,000 grant from DVRPC to kick off design for the trail from the shopping center east.

Pump Track – No Complaints – although the weather has been terrible it has held up well. They are looking for additional dirt or top soil to add to the facility in the spring, it is a safe, friendly track that is well used.

Other Business –

Mr. Gage is looking for feedback on an email he sent on the map and reflecting reality and ongoing challenge updates. He recognized that Mr. Kelso is working with a student at Delaware Valley University and should be updated shortly. He also met with Andrea Susten, Special Projects Coordinator for the Township making some updates on the website as well.

Skooters – Lots of places are getting skooters, companies coming in and people rent them and use them around communities. This is an activity, they go very fast and it is critical to obtain appropriate policy.

Mr. Hamilton indicated that DCNR is working on a policy for electric bikes and could be stepping off from this and could be able to be shared in the future.

There was a question on whether this is transportation vs. recreation design for bikes at 10MPH. Question on whether to put lines to separate people and bikes. Numbers equate to the speed and how it is designed.

Adjournment - Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:05am. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 8:00am.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason
Township Manager