

Bike/Hike Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2019

Present: Lynn Goldman; Tom Kelso; Judy Hendrixson; Roger Clark; Dick Patterson; Katie Maio; Paul Gordon, Bucks County; Cynthia Jones, New Britain Township Supervisor; Chris Stanford, Baker Engineers; Steve Disciullo, Baker Engineers and Stephanie Mason, Township Manager.

Guest: Marc Schonfeld, Resident Chestnut Valley Dr.

Minutes Approval – The minutes from the August 20, 2019 meeting were approved with changes.

Review of Projects

Old New Road – Consideration of Sidewalk/trail – Update – Mr. Kelso indicated that he met with Dave Tomko, Director of Operations and Stephanie Mason, Township Manager and reviewed the information available on Old New Road between Bristol and Lower State Roads.

Sewers are being installed in this neighborhood and in time he believes we will be able to address either putting this road on a road diet and allowing for a bike lane. Lower State Road is rather narrow and bumpy but coming into the development as if it's improved it will be easy to provide opportunity to address access in the neighborhood. He will work on sketching something out.

It was also suggested that this be a location the committee look at when they go on the bike tour on Thursday.

Neshaminy Greenway – Bristol to Upper State Road – Update – Mr. Stanford indicated that the bids came in; there were about 6 or 7 bidders. The low bid was \$2.2 million. The PennDot grant that New Britain Township has is for \$2 million, they have spoken with DVRPC and they do not believe this will be a problem to get the additional funding. New Britain Township is going to cover the inspection cost, which will equate to about \$100,000.

Anticipate that construction will start something in December along Upper State Road near the sewer plant. It will provide access for Cedarcrest Farms.

The Coleman Property has been obtained by New Britain Township and will also be incorporated to improve the trail system as well.

There was discussion regarding a rapid flashing beacon on Bristol Road, as well as the need for one on Upper State Road if not just both having signage and crosswalks.

There will be road work and detours when things get started under construction.

Turk Road Area Trail – Feasibility Study - Update – There is a meeting on October 2, 2019 at 7PM.

Ms. Goldman has reached out a number of times to the Doylestown Country Club; of course they are invited to the meeting.

Mr. Stanford indicated that here will be sort of an Open House style meeting format with board around the room from about 7:00 – 7:30; 7:30 – 8:00 there will be a presentation and then we will go back to the open house format for Q and A, with the different neighborhoods.

Ms. Goldman discussed East Street in the Borough and wondered what was happening there. The Brooks Tract on Cherry Lane will be adding some trail and also questions on Short Road which is further away and not part of this study at this time.

Mr. Kelso spoke about the meeting recently with the Bicycle Coalition and the use of maps at DVRPC. They rely heavily on funding from the William Penn Foundation and this could be a source in the future.

Green Street was recently repaved and painted with Bike Lanes.

Shady Retreat Road Safe Route to School Trail – Update – Mr. Schonfeld from Chestnut Valley Dr. thanked the committee for allowing him to participate and for taking his concerns seriously and working to incorporate them in the study.

Mr. Disciullo updated Mr. Stanford indicating that only having one crossing from Chestnut Valley Dr. could be easily incorporated and that is being further evaluated.

There was some discussion about the horizontal and vertical views of the roadway and compliance with ADA but it is believed those could be easily addressed through the process.

Submission to safety to PennDot has occurred and further discussion as we go through the design process will be evaluated.

Bucks County Trail – Update – The County broke ground for the Upper Bucks Hellertown to Bethlehem Trail. The engineer is on board with the Newtown Rail Trail this October will be getting underway. Next summer expects the Upper Saucon Trail part of the Upper Bucks Trail to be completed. Neshaminy Manor Trail they are struggling with the engineer and stormwater and traffic as well as the MPDS Permit. They have been in touch with Joe Banks regarding it and the delay because of the realignment and they are not too concerned at this time.

The trail at Core Creek Park is underway as well. Newtown and Neshaminy East design and right of way behind Kohl's to Valley Road, there is the need for two bridges and easements midway at the Eisold Property.

Mr. Kelso suggested a sketch and options might be possible and should be looked at.

At this evenings meeting the Central Park to 313 paralleling bypass study grant documentation has been sent to enter into agreement with DVRPC.

Pump Track – Update – They added a bike repair station that was installed with tools at the Pump Track and is very popular.

Other Business and New Projects Consideration – Thursday afternoon there will be a van ride at 4PM.

Ms. Goldman updated the committee that the meeting with Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick about the China embargo on electric bikes went very well.

Ms. Hendrixon brought up that at Almshouse and Beulah that a crosswalk is truly needed. However there was discussion on the information that is needed to go into putting a crosswalk there, paint cannot just be put down, appropriate because it is a PennDot roadway. PennDot permits will be needed, ADA compliance will need to be met and engineering design as well as easements from the cemetery will need to be obtained before anything could be further pursued. Also Traffic Advisory midblock crossing and input from New Britain Township is necessary.

Adding maps or access to maps in the meeting room would be helpful during meetings.

Adjournment - Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:58am. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 8:00am.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason
Township Manager