

Notes from Bike/Hike Meeting

March 21, 2017

Present: Lynn Goldman, Chairman; Tom Kelso; Chris Stanford; Paul Gordon, Bucks County Planning Commission; Dick Bach; Mary Pat Holewinski; Liz Wyckoff; Marilyn Jacobson; Bruce Hochman; Andy Hamilton; Andy Clark; Dick Pattyson; Taylor Thompson; Ryan Manion, Board of Supervisors Liaison; Ken Snyder, Board of Supervisors Member; Dave Tomko, Director of Operations and Stephanie Mason, Township Manager.

Guests: Bob Heilman

Review of Projects

Neshaminy Greenway – Emmel property is moving along, the Board of Supervisors at the meeting that evening is to approve compensating for the easement.

New Britain Borough is still working with the three properties; they have sent a letter indicating that they may have to consider condemnation. All three agreed that they did not want to go through the condemnation process and they feel that they have come up with a list of enhancements for the property; New Britain Borough will deal with in providing them access for the trail.

Turk Road Trail Extension to Pebble Hill Road – Is before the Board of Supervisors as well; as a DCNR Grant, which is being submitted. Mr. Kelso indicated that the meeting with the Borough went well and they will partner with the Township on it.

Metro Storage – Was reviewed by the Committee. Mr. Heilman indicated that he is intending to develop the Carosi Property on Route 611, the County has property nearby and Mr. Gordon indicated that they were intending to bring the trail down through there however, they have determined that it is in their best interest to try to bring the trail near the Uno's with an easement from Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority. They will cross the creek and come down from the Greens of Warrington Country Club. They are hoping for a trailhead off of Pebble Hill Road however they are looking for a design only in the grant right now that they would do. They don't need anything at this point from the Township.

It was discussed that perhaps having a sidewalk along that area for Metro Storage or a Fee in Lieu of may be more beneficial for that property at this time.

Mr. Kelso recused himself; as his firm has a proposal to perform storm water work for Metro Storage's engineer.

Lower State Road – Start date is May 8, 2017. SEPTA is moving things along hoping to do that work first. Crossing at the signal will go in; it will not be a No All Stop at New Britain Road, which was something we may be able to change. Mr. Kelso feels that it might be worth doing.

We also talked about the connection from the Pine Tree Farm Development and that will just have to continue to look for as a mid-block crossing. There is some pipe and wetlands work that needs to be done there; it may be too expensive to try to connect it at this time with sidewalk.

Turk Road as mentioned, the Borough and Township are putting in a DCNR Grant.

Pump Tract – Ms. Wyckoff showed the Committee a power point regarding a bike friendly closed loop tract with small turns and banks around that allows the body to pump. It can be dirt or asphalt; it is good for any age and is about the size of two tennis courts, if it is dirt it would be closed in the winter time. There are some in

the area, start at about five years of age, can use any type of bike BMX, Road, Crossover etc. The Borough is thinking about putting one in at Chapman Park. They would be looking to be doing it through donations and funding, they would need to bring in dirt, looking for letters of support, it would be in the woods. It was suggested that since it abuts Doylestown Township that they reach out to individual property owners and talk with the neighbors as well.

Ms. Goldman indicated that she had read something about a New Zealand Trail where they did an eight hour bike ride in the shape of a sheep. This would require a map design that could come up with something unique that people could ride along, perhaps a castle, use it as a fundraiser with a six-hour challenge.

Ms. Wyckoff indicated that the Bike Advisory Committee in the Borough was hoping to bring awareness and do something around September, working with the Fenimores on the Pebble Hill Road Project to bring awareness.

Other Business –

Newsletter Article – Ms. Goldman asked Mr. Clark to assist with that and have it in by April 10, 2017.

Doylestown Hospital – Mr. Stanford indicated that he reviewed the suggestions with the Hospital in narrowing the lanes and provide a better safer bike and pedestrian access through the Hospital loop road to Shady Retreat and Limekiln.

Bucks County CMAQ Grant – They are applying for a new DCNR funding, it will be a planning grant to look at the 2.4mile trail to Valley Road from starting at around Almshouse Road.

Recognition of Dick John Retirement – Ms. Goldman and Mr. Kelso took time from the meeting to recognize Richard E. John, Director of Operations who for the past 29 years assisted in bringing the Bike/Hike Trails to fruition. Mr. Kelso presented on behalf of the Bike/Hike Committee Mr. John with a Bike/Hike Plaque that he could use and thanked him for his dedicated service and aiding with the development of 27 miles of trail in and around Doylestown Township. He will be missed.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned 9:15am. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, April 18, 2017.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason
Township Manager