

**Doylestown Community Bike/Hike Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 15, 2022, 8:00am**  
**Doylestown Township Municipal Building**

**Present:** Lynn Goldman, Chairman; Tom Kelso; Judy Hendrixson; Louise Silberg; Steve Disciullo, Baker Engineers; Larry Gage; Marilyn Jacobsen; Cynthia Jones; Rick James; Christian Regosch, Bucks County Planning Commission; Richard Brahler, Bucks County Planning Commission; Mary Pat Holewinski; Emily Valmore; Nicole McIlroy; Bill Wert; Dan Wood, Board of Supervisors Liaison and Stephanie Mason, Township Manager.

**Minutes Approval October 18, 2022** meeting, on motion of Ms. Hendrixson, seconded by Ms. Holewinski the minutes were approved with an amendment from Cynthia Jones regarding the Neshaminy Greenway.

### **Review of Projects**

#### **Bike Lanes Project**

The Committee reviewed the email from Allison Davis, Bucks TMA. Alternative routes to 313 were suggested as Pebble Hill Road to do the Pop-Up Bike Route from Cherry Lane to Country Club, Ms. Jacobson suggested Bristol Road from the trail to Forest Drive might be helpful especially addressing the pedestrian crossing, another is South Easton Road from Steeplechase to Warden Road.

Mr. Kelso thought that Pebble Hill may be a challenge but if the TMA is interested and needs alternatives that was suggested.

Ms. Goldman suggested that we work with TMA regarding bicycle safety classes in the schools.

#### **Bucks County Trails Map**

Mr. Regosch indicated that there were some connections in Chalfont that were added and over all response has been great. So far 5,000 people have viewed the new maps on the website in the last 6 weeks, approximately 29 views a day.

Ms. Jacobsen indicated that she shared it with the runners who participated in the 5K series that like to run and bike.

Mr. Gage asked about people being able to submit trails that were perhaps missed and not featured.

Mr. Regosch indicated that there will be a spot on the website to be able to send those to Bucks County Planning Commission.

#### **Easton Road Trail Connector Concept Plan – Update**

Mr. Disciullo indicated that the grant application was submitted in July, and we have not heard anything yet.

#### **New Britain Trail Project – Update**

Mr. Disciullo shared that the environmental assessment demonstrated that there are wetlands on the New Britain side of the road just past the back side of Central Park. There is a slope there. He showed some profiles of the trail and roadway and the drop off. It's been indicated that and suggested that a shift in the road and a split rail fence could be incorporated to avoid the wetlands in this area with some resurfacing and striping.

The consensus of the Committee was that was a good idea.

The shoulder is rather soft. Mr. Kelso suggested that a core sample be taken to make sure it can accommodate additional paving and what if any base would need to be added. He will do a cost benefit analysis on the pavement with the

realignment.

Mr. Kelso indicated that he recalls those were the original thoughts, to move the road over a bit when the trail concept was discussed even back with Mr. John when he was here.

There was a question about the separation between the trail and the road, possibly the need for more guiderail and a smaller shoulder. They will work with Mr. Tomko, Director of Operations and PennDOT regarding the plans for the trail.

There was also discussion that PennDOT will be replacing the bridge and as part of their project will include fencing on the bridge. We will be providing the bike lane across the bridge, PennDOT is ok with our plans for that.

There was also discussion about incorporating some of our artwork and working with the Bucks County Institute of Technology in their different aspects in the making of those silhouettes.

Ms. Hendrixson indicated that she has already talked to the school, it could not be part of the curriculum, but it could be an extra credit assignment.

Ms. Goldman indicated that she would be happy to speak to Thompson about their auto body painting the design.

Mr. Wert indicated that he could talk to somebody about cutting the designs.

Mr. Kelso indicated that he could do the AutoCAD if the students are not available to work with us on the silhouettes.

There was also discussion about the transition at Rolling Hill Blvd. and the possible need for a three-way stop in redesigning the safety of the intersection as cars, pedestrians and cyclists merge together New Britain Road, the bridge and Rolling Hill.

### **Shady Retreat Safe Routes to School Trail – Update**

The bid package is being prepared in a ECMS system at PennDOT, hoping to go out May/June 2023. Just dotting the final i's and crossing the final t's.

There was a question about One Country Brook their property line and road right of way.

Mr. Disciullo will follow up with the property owner.

### **Pump Track– Update**

Closed for the season, but there are trails being built in the woodlands.

### **Prioritizing list of Future Projects**

Mr. Kelso stated that he is working on an overall list.

### **Bucks County Planning Commission Study of Neshaminy Greenway Trail (Warwick Twp.)**

Mr. Brahler indicated that the Citizens Advisory Design Committee engineering plans were finalized and put out for public comment. Comments ended last Friday.

Some of the reviews were negative, there were a handful of positive, there are no new comments on the project at this point. Baker will finalize the plans and bid docs by the end of the year and close out the grant application for the Planning, Design and Engineering of the project.

This project does not cross the creek due to the need for bridges. It is a shorter trail at Bucks County Water & Sewer

Authority and a shorter trail from the trail head and Valley Road which loops around on itself.

Ms. Silberg indicated that she believes the County did extraordinary extra work related to the sensitive environmental area and is fully on board with the project as proposed.

Several of the Bike/Hike Committee members said that they too agree that the County had gone above and beyond in its study.

Mr. Brahler indicated that the Commissioners are fully on board with the plan and proposed project. At this time there is no grant funding to construct but at least the County has a shovel ready project when and if grant funding becomes available.

Mr. Wood indicated that he knows several members of the Townships EAC spoke against the potential future development of the trail and he's hoping that the Township doesn't have a serious conflict between the EAC and the Bike/Hike Committee. If and when a project moves forward, he would be happy to have the two boards get together and sit down and discuss the County's project further.

There was discussion regarding E-Bikes and that the County is working on an E-Bike Ordinance. It has been suggested that before we move forward on what this Committees' been working on, we will wait until the County brings forth their ordinance.

The Committee suggested bringing the new Park & Recreation Director from Bucks County to a Bike/Hike meeting in the new year.

Mr. Kelso indicated that Buckingham Township is working on installing a trail with their public works department on Little Buckingham Mountain, which is rugged area, it has a nature trail now and connects from Upper Mountain Estates to this new trail. He said he worked with the residents to obtain the appropriate easements and it's going to be great for walking.

**Adjournment** - Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:13am on motion of Mr. Kelso, seconded by Ms. Jones. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 20, 2022, at 8:00 am** at the Doylestown Township Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason  
Township Manager